UFO

a forum for extraordinary theories and phenomena
Vol. 3, No. 3 1988 $3

UFOS IN THE NEWS

Has the press been responsible?

UFOs Called Swamp Gas
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DAVENPORT — BETTENDORF, IOWA.
DEPUTIES, OTHERS REPORT WATCHING U
'Mysterious Red Ligh
Bright Objects in Sky Set
OKLAHOMA PUBLISHING CO
500 N BROADWAY, OKLAHOMA CITY, MONDAY, AUGUST
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
WEDNESDAY,
'Little Green Men' From Outer Spac
ORTS OF 300 LANDINGS OF ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD

PLUS:

More on Gulf Breeze
Army Vet Contactee
CIA, NSA and UFOs

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Penetrating government secrecy, sensationalism, and the 'laughter curtain'

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

"The UFO Conspiracy by Jenny Randles, as published in hard cover by Blandford Press, contained an apparent endorsement from Whitley Strieber, the author of Communion, on the front cover. The UFO Conspiracy is also published in paperback by Javelin, the paperback imprint of Blandford Press, and contains no such endorsement.

The use of Mr. Strieber's name and certain material from Communion was not authorized by him. Mr. Strieber has not endorsed this book, has not read it and takes no position regarding its contents."

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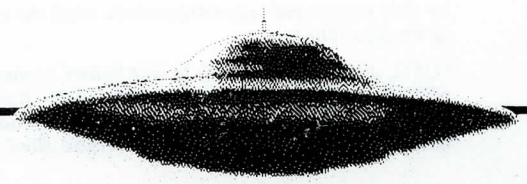

This issue of ***UFO*** is what our "UFO MediaWatch" column might look like, were it a young publication of its own. In some ways, such a publication might be ultimately more important to us than this one. Though the depth and focus afforded by working on ***UFO*** endlessly challenge our skills and sensibilities, this material ultimately reaches a relatively tiny speck of the planet's citizens.

How public consensus is shaped through the general media is far more crucial to ufology's long-term interests, in terms of gaining research funding, calling for government accountability, and ridding the UFO phenomenon of its lunatic fringe status. We are devoting this and our next issue to looking at how and why the media have gone the route that they have in this area, and possibly what can be done about it. Round one, this issue: assessing how the American press as a whole has addressed the UFO phenomenon. The journalists, academicians and ufologists we interviewed repeatedly pointed out the sometimes unavoidable factors that have minimized and/or trivialized UFO coverage in the larger press since day one.

The read-out is troubling in many areas. By way of self-reflection, ***UFO*** magazine admits to being subject to many of the same restraints as conventional media; we endure the frustrations of having secrecy and psychological stigma strangling nearly every element of our subject. We are *conscious of it*; the resulting information gap is real and very difficult. The tone of our media presentation may seem harsh toward journalists for surrendering to these forces—by pointedly ignoring UFOs as news—but some "reading between the lines" might establish a more culpable entity.

Certainly enough media rhetoric has decried the strategies of secrecy and deception that govern our intelligence establishment and undermine the democratic ideals and practices of our American political and social structure. There's little to be gained from going over that territory again, except to suggest that the alibi of "National Security" may be every bit as much a convenience for justifying the UFO cover-up as for explaining why we must conduct illegal secret wars in Third World countries.

We leave it at that. Stan Friedman delineates one remarkable example of governmental secrecy on parade, and in *Contactee: First Hand*, veteran Eldon Kerfoot tells of a mystical revelation with its own, strongly political implications. Other events and personalities profiled in this issue fit nicely into the carefully-built UFO mythos that seems to affix media's general slant on the subject.

As always, the realities of deadline impel us to cut short our research, edit and delete to make room for everything, and say "It's a wrap" until next time. -30-

Vicki Cooper

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Cover collage made from the press clipping collection of Bob Achzehner. Pictorial symbol on the cover and those used throughout the media section are reprinted from "Handbook of Pictorial Symbols," by Rudolf Modley, published by Dover Publications, Inc., New York

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"UFO, July/August 1988, is published bi-monthly for $18 per year by California UFO, 1536 S. Robertson Blvd., L.A. CA 90035. Application to Mail at Second-Class Postage Rates is Pending at Los Angeles, California. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CALIFORNIA UFO, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd., Box 355, L.A. CA 90035."

L E T T E R S

Editor:

There are a number of factual misstatements in the MJ-12 article (***UFO***, Vol. 3, No.2) which I would like to correct.

1. MJ-12 documentation was not "delivered anonymously." Jaime Shandera received the 35 mm film on which there were two sets of negatives each of the Nov. 18, 1952 briefing document for President-Elect Eisenhower in the mail, in an envelope without a return address or name.

2. I have no idea where you got the incorrect notions that the briefing document consisted of two pages, or that the Hillenkoetter material reviewed by Dr. Wescott consisted of 1200 originated pages. The material included several personal letters from RHH (Hillenkoetter) obtained by me from Antonio Huneeus of New York, a couple of items from the 869-page book ***The Agency: The Rise and Decline of the CIA*** by John Ranelagh, and most important, a total of 19 items by RHH from his tenure as director of Central Intelligence, May 1, 1947 to Oct. 7, 1950. The latter 37 pages included one TOP SECRET CONTROL Document, three TOP SECRET memos, 10 SECRET items and one unclassified letter. My copies were obtained during my third visit to the Truman Library. All had been declassified.

I procured the original Hillenkoetter material for Attorney Robert Bletchman, who passed it on to Dr. Wescott with whom I had no contact until after he had completed his analysis. The briefing refers to Hillenkoetter as the briefing officer; no guesswork.

Stanton T. Friedman
New Brunswick, Canada

*Ed. Note: **UFO** regrets the errors. (Friedman elaborates on government UFO involvement and documentation relating to the CIA and the National Security Agency, this issue.) A package of MJ-12-related items—including a clean copy of the briefing and a supporting memo—is available for $7 postpaid from the UFO Research Institute, P.O. Box 3584, Sta. B, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3A 5J8.*

Editor:

The so-called Hudson Valley sightings are, I am afraid, nothing more than seven private aircraft teaming up in the formation depicted in your photograph (Vol. 3, No. 2) to intentionally mystify the entire community. I was invited by a UFO watch group to witness this occurrence which, they said, appeared regularly and on almost a weekly basis.

Although many of the locals tend to be believers out of sheer want for reality, I took it upon myself to take a private drive through wooded areas to place myself directly under the path of the so-called UFO—which, by the way, looked very convincing to the untrained eye.

Not only was I able to clearly see each individual aircraft against the dark sky, but I could hear the engines as well. Yet most people interrogated swear by the UFO [explanation].

It's obviously Miller Time for a group of recreational pilots who meet once a week. A UFO? I should say not.

Robert Doornick
New York, NY

Editor:

I think abduction researcher Budd Hopkins is showing the same insensitivity for the abductee victims as the beings who abducted them when he claims to be "extremely opposed to people being in touch with one another in terms of sharing details of their experiences . . . reading UFO books," etc. (Vol. 3, No. 2)

Hopkins is putting his own interests in the advancement of science and the acquisition of data ahead of the abductees' need and desire to seek emotional balance.

Granted, some (alien) encounters may seem cold and clinical, but I believe there are many benevolent interactions that go unreported.

Robert F.
Phoenix, AZ

Hopkins responds: "I have been looking into abduction cases of contact since 1975; these involve perhaps 200 people. Virtually ALL these cases—even ones that began with a conscious wish on the part of the abductee for benevolent interaction—turned out to be, upon examination, prototypical abduction scenarios. I have also run into cases of 'wishful thinking,' and sadly, people with extremely active imaginations . . . As to my version of the 'buddy system,' (and follow-up support group) as I explained, the abductees themselves feel this is the best policy for them. Years of intensive work with these people, who have been deeply disturbed by their experiences, have led me to agree."

Editor:

Whatever happened to that article and/or review pertaining to my book ***UFO Crash At Aztec***, that was to appear in your magazine? People have asked me why you placed that statement in your "Coming Up" blurb.

While "organized ufology" is hovering around "MJ-12," I am working with a team that is trudging deeper and deeper into the present day, MJ-12, PI-40 business.

William Steinman
La Mirada, CA

*Ed. Note: Aztec and other disputed information accompanies the entire mystery that hinges on, for want of a better catch-all, MJ-12. We didn't mean to mislead readers, but new facts and leads dribbling onto the scene inhibit our ability to know exactly when or how a given case or book will be covered in the magazine. It's ALL being looked into by **UFO**.*

Editor:

For some time now, I have been able to "physically feel" the contents of a manuscript, book, document, etc. and be able to comment on the contents with accuracy. When a friend of mine approached me to sit in on a discussion with some contactees and others who had obtained the Lear Letter (see ***UFO***, Vol. 3, No.1) which suggests a government/alien conspiracy, I was interested.

As I felt the energy of the letter, it became clear to me that the exact purpose of this story was to upset and manipulate. It was as if the Watergate tricksters had pulled another political dirty trick out of a hat. It was also very clear to me that names had been changed to implicate innocent parties, that events had been shuffled around and an attempt made to suggest that the aliens involved had something to do with the beings referred to in ***Communion*** and ***Intruders***.

I strongly feel that the so-called "Lear Letter" has been (the source and) subject of manipulation and trickery. I also do not feel that our government per se is involved in any way; this document feels like it reached its current stage through development by private parties.

Robert Shapiro
Sedona, AZ

Gulf Breeze Analysis Turns Heads

By Jerome Clark

PHOTO BY DENNIS STACY

***LEADING LIGHTS**—Ufologists on hand in Nebraska: MUFON executive director Walt Andrus (left) and Navy optical physicist Bruce Maccabee (right.)*

A persuasive paper presented by optical physicist and UFO researcher Dr. Bruce Maccabee regarding the controversial Gulf Breeze photos was one highlight of this year's Mutual UFO Network Symposium, held June 24-26 at the University of Nebraska campus in Lincoln. Three hundred people attended.

The Gulf Breeze case has been the most controversial UFO episode in years, largely because historically, cases of supposed repeated contact and photographs have been hoaxes. Culled from an impressive amount of study in both field and laboratory, Maccabee's presentation covered 21 points of merit indicating that the photographs depict large objects and seem virtually impossible to fake. After Maccabee's presentation, even those who had been deeply skeptical (including myself) were inclined to take a second look at the evidence. If the Gulf Breeze reports are of true UFOs, this is a situation without precedent, with possible implications for future UFO behavior.

Among other speakers was Temple University professor David M. Jacobs, who has been conducting his own investigation of abductees in the Philadelphia area. Certain that these cases are real experiences with real aliens, Dr. Jacobs says, "The effects of abductions on people's lives can be devastating . . . There are no benefits, no rewards, nothing to be gained . . . The vast majority of abductees wish that their experiences had never happened, and most of them live in fear that it will occur again. They suffer a variety of physical and psychological sequelae that . . . often robs them of conscious, rational control of the course of their lives." Jacobs says these effects are physical, involving scars, pregnancy anomalies, eye problems, psychological symptoms and other difficulties. Jacobs calls these psychological problems post-abduction syndrome (PAS), which include everything from sleep disorders to sexual dysfunction and even, in a few cases, an extreme aversion to babies. Jacobs explains, "During an abduction, women may be told that they are going to have a baby and

'New' Trend In Ufology

This year's well-attended conference clearly reflected American ufology's changing atmosphere. There was a time when other theories, based on para-psychological or anomalistic-psychological interpretations of UFO data commanded signficant followings. The 1980s have seen a return to visions of nuts-and-bolts spacecraft piloted by flesh-and-blood humanoids and of official UFO cover-ups, reminiscent of what ufologists were seeing in the '50s.

Current visions are different only in scope. Thirty or forty years ago, ufologists knew next to nothing about abductions (though aware of CE3s, close encounters of the third kind, or face-to-face alien encounters) and few believed in crashed and recovered UFOs. They did, however, take seriously other stories of cover-up.

Today, in the wake of William Moore and Stanton Friedman's in-depth investigation into the Roswell incident (an apparent UFO crash in 1947) and the abduction studies of Budd Hopkins and others, crash-retrieval accounts and abduction reports have become the two principal areas of ufological concern. If true, the former seem to offer the long-sought "proof" of extraterrestrial visitation; the latter, if they are predominantly physical rather than psychological experiences, tell us much about the nature of the intelligence controlling the UFO phenomenon.

Ufological presentations along these lines show the growing maturity of the subject as well as giving some sense of potentially extraordinary developments to come. ***—J.C.***

then may experience a 'dummy birth' where they go through the motions of giving birth, or mental images of giving birth run through their minds. Far more frequently, they may see and hold unusual-looking babies during the experience. As a result, both men and women develop distinct 'avoidance' postures towards babies."

Another major paper was presented by Walter N. Webb, who is best known as the investigator of the celebrated Barney and Betty Hill case. Webb also spent five years investigating a 1968 case in which a young man and woman reported a UFO sighting and attendant missing time while working at a private summer girls' camp in Vermont, along the banks of Lake Champlain. Following the experience, the two had no further contact. Yet 10 years later, when separately put under hypnosis, they recalled an abduction in which both the major and minor details match to a startling degree. Webb also found other witnesses who apparently observed the departure of the abducting UFO. Unless this is a hoax—and Webb, who is considered a cautious, thorough investigator, is convinced it is not—the usual skeptical explanation that abductions are purely imaginary seems not to apply.

On the crash/cover-up front, TV producer Jaime Shandera stood in for the previously-scheduled William Moore and spoke—with what some in the audience felt to be exasperating vagueness—on his and Moore's current dealings with a shadowy group of military intelligence officers who claim to be engineering an imminent release of major revelations concerning the U.S. government's involvement with UFOs and their occupants. One of these revelations is said to be that intelligence agencies have been in contact with "extraterrestrial biological entities" (EBEs) from a nearby solar system.

Shandera says, "a window of opportunity for release of this information seems to exist now. By our feelings, this 'window' may cease to exist by the end of the Reagan administration."

Rumors of such announcements have been making the rounds since the mid-'70s. In the 1980s, controversial documents purporting to be from UFO cover-up projects such as MJ-12 and Aquarius have been circulated, but their authenticity has never been established. Regardless of what their sources decide, Shandera says he and Moore will be releasing their information within the next couple of months.

Press Notified on Day of Soviet Launch

Mars Alert About 'Face'

At a carefully-timed press conference held in Washington, D.C. on July 7, scientists including an ex-astronaut again brought the Sphinx-like "Face on Mars" into the public eye. The "face" was among the many images photographed during NASA's 1976 Viking mission.

On the same day as this press alert, the Soviet Union launched Phobos, an unmanned exploratory rocket to Mars. The 400 million-mile trip will afford everyone on Earth a close-up look at the territory—TV cameras on the spacecraft will be able to send back extremely close, sharp images of both Mars and Phobos.

Ex-astronaut Brian O'Leary told reporters that the origin of the Martian face is sufficiently indeterminate to warrant closer look. In-depth computer enhancements conducted by optical technician Mark Carlotto, of Massachsetts-based Analytical Sciences Corp., has shown "that the face is not natural . . . it's extremely unlikely that it's a trick of light and shadow."

Science writer Dick Hoagland, founder of the California-based independent research alliance called The Mars Project, claims the Soviets have expressed great interest in the "face" and pyramid-shaped structures on Mars, and are probably planning to explore the anomalous features as part of their wide-ranging mission agenda.

Few scientists agree with Carlotto, Hoagland and others who would emphasize possibly artificial origins to the face-like rock formation, dismissing such theories as inconsistent with what data on Mars are currently available. Says a Mars scientist from the U.S. Geological Survey, "We took a look at [photos of the "face] at the end of Viking and thought 'isn't that interesting' . . . but as far as we're concerned it's a normal formation."

Coverup Coup: Activist Dogs FBI Memo

Larry Bryant, head of the Washington, D.C. office of Citizens against UFO Secrecy, on June 1 submitted a Freedom of Information Act Request to release the contents of a 1950 FBI memo indicating official recovery of a saucer crash in New Mexico.

The FBI already released part of the memo—dated Mar. 22, 1950—in response to an initial FOIA action by another researcher seeking all UFO-related records in the FBI's possession. The document censors the principals' identities, ostensibly to protect their privacy and/or confidentiality. Bryant asserts, "The public's right to know the details about such a momentous event as crashed saucers and their retrieved occupants transcends the government's desire to shield agents, witnesses and informants from public exposure."

Bryant has been at odds with his Pentagon employers regarding the UFO advertisements he placed in military newspapers in pursuit of a "UFO Deep Throat." He asks rhetorically, "If there's no such thing as UFOs and if they merit no serious attention, then why is the government treating this subject so carefully, and withholding that activity—or putting a veil around that activity when it comes to public access? The government should not be allowed to have it both ways."

Acting without an attorney, Bryant says he's willing to take the risk of being tripped up on a legal technicality in the course of his FOIA request. "This is mainly a statement from a concerned citizen about a government policy that should not to be allowed to continue . . . a policy of deception and secrecy."

Coming Events

GLOBAL Sciences Congress in Denver, Aug. 17-22, hosts saucer speaker Virgil Armstrong and psi-techie Tom Bearden, among many consciousness/alternative health pros. Phone (800)525-8110; (800)332-8767 in Colorado.

RESEARCHERS and contactees to convene at the fall symposium sponsored by Omega Communications. Includes Bruce Maccabee, Philip Imbrogno, Larry Fawcett and Walt Webb. Write Omega: 60 Pound Ridge Rd., Cheshire, CT 06410.

UFO LUMINARIES Jacques Vallee, William Moore and Leo Sprinkle, plus Eric Von Daniken and Bob Pratt, head Brazil way for the International Rio De Janeiro UFO Congress, Sept. 3-6. Rio's Adam Tours: (201)240-5646.

LONG ISLAND events in special focus at the 2nd Long Island UFO Conference, Oct. 2. Budd Hopkins on the program. Write Moon Creations, 5 Wycomb Ct., Coram, NY 11727.

PEOPLE

In focus...

Lee Graham

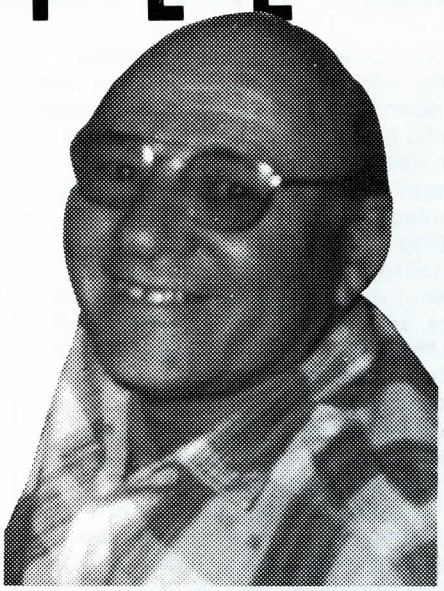
While the latest federal investigation into high-level corruption nails officials in defense and aerospace, another man connected to those closely intertwined industries has quietly undertaken his own personal probe—into none other than the UFO coverup.

Self-described "military jet aircraft buff" and veteran aerospace technician Lee Graham has snared not only reams of fascinating letters, statements and documentation in his persistent effort to pin down the government about its UFO program, but has also attracted a more-than-casual probe by investigators from the Defense Department.

Graham, at one time a devout fundamentalist Christian who dismissed UFOs as satanic delusion, was recently questioned by investigators from the Defense Investigative Services, whom he says wanted to know more about his interest in UFOs.

The DIS inquiry—which included preliminary questioning of Graham's friends and neighbors—is only one among several incidents which have, in effect, been Graham's UFO baptism. "I've swapped the belief that the earth is 6,000 years old to believing that it's billions of years old—that UFOs are delusions to the fact that they exist!" he declares.

In bolstering that belief, Graham takes full advantage of the Freedom of Information Act, the citizens' conventional recourse in retrieving government documents and related information. He's so far obtained literally thousands of pages of documentation. His UFO activism has already aroused the ire of officials from his firm—a major defense contractor which, among other things, works on highly classified "black" programs—but Graham swears he can't give up. At least not yet. "I've invested 30 years of my life in the aerospace industry," Graham says, a bit plaintively. "I make my bread and butter in this field because I have a security clearance and can work on the hardware I work on. My primary responsibility is to protect that. I know that if I screw up, they'll yank it . . . but



Lee Graham

I'm at the point now where I have *got* to have stuff authenticated!"

Some of that "stuff" pads the whole convoluted MJ-12 drama, which centers on unconfirmed documents alleging a covert U.S. government group which has steadily masterminded a program of coverup and intensive UFO study since the 1940s.

The UFO community continues to squabble about MJ-12. In the meantime, Graham has proceeded to check out a hot little piece of paper referred to as "Snowbird." The so-called Snowbird document is contained in a package of documentation which describes ongoing communication established between the U.S. government and the aliens—an idea that not too long ago would have elicited a derisive hoot from Graham.

But the information is provocative enough to keep Graham digging. Snowbird is thought to be the code name of an above top-secret Air Force project—test flights of alien craft in the Nevada desert. Graham says it took a correlating tale from a fellow aerospace employee—who returned from a trip to Wright Patterson Air Force Base with claims of the Air Force having some crashed saucers stored in a secret facility called the Blue Room—to push him several steps beyond laughter. "At the time, I didn't believe it," he recalls. "Then a friend showed me a tabloid article claiming that Barry Goldwater was denied access to this same facility! I was going to prove none of this ever took place, so I wrote Goldwater."

Unexpectedly, Goldwater wrote back, saying the Blue Room rumor was essentially true. "That began my curiousity," Graham says. Soon another carrot came along, by way of UFO researcher William Moore, who ostensibly showed Graham and his fellow UFO buff Ron Regehr the Snowbird document.

"When we were shown that, I wrote Goldwater again . . ." And the reply was again affirmative, but now Graham felt they had to somehow get their own copy of the document. "Ron and I hatched a plot," Graham reports. The "plot"—the details of which are disputed—apparently worked, but when they got hold of Snowbird, "no one believed it was genuine," Graham recalls.

Mistakenly thinking Snowbird had not already been declassified, and realizing the penalties risked should they happen to be caught red-handed with a very real, classified government document, Regehr went ahead and stamped it "unclassified," he says. Graham promptly took Snowbird to their company's security office, who turned over the paper to the Defense Investigative Service (DIS), which immediately fired back a demand that Graham write them a letter explaining where the document came from. Then, post-haste, the DIS commenced investigating Graham.

"So I've been writing all kinds of FOIAs to the government to try to get the document refuted or authenticated," Graham summarizes. Nothing definitive has happened yet, but a hell of lot of new tidbits have been added to the puzzle. Events have sparked an endless series questions and speculations by Graham that have merged into other UFO scuttlebutt heard in aerospace circles and elsewhere. "I had made this leap in logic that if (the Snowbird document) was a phoney, then no way would our government offer it to a member of the aerospace industry! It actually spells out test-flying in Nevada," he muses, pulling out a map of Nevada and pointing to an area called Groom Lake, where the Air Force allegedly does all kinds of "secret" testing of advanced technology, aircraft in particular. "The Air Force won't even admit Groom Lake exists," Graham says. [When asked about Groom Lake, an Air Force Lt. Colonel familiar with UFO events told ***UFO***, "I can neither confirm nor deny."]

Graham says, "You don't create phoney documents and then point people to the very base you don't

want looked at."

Stealth technology is a related passion of both Regehr and Graham. They count among their friends John Andrews, the model airplane maker who shook national security rafters after successfully designing Testor Corporation's bestselling F-19—the streamlined Stealth fighter which the Air Force won't acknowledge. In some inside circles, the link between the supersecret jet and UFO is blisteringly hot—and according to Graham and Regehr, they got the word directly from agents whom they met recently at the home of a CIA-connected UFO researcher. "They told us, 'You guys are headed right at the Stealth program; you're headed towards a hornet's nest and we'd like to get you away from that if we can.'" Graham recalls. " I said, 'fine, where do we look for the aliens?' "

* * *

After talking some more about all the confusion, pressure and tangled webs clouding his path toward UFO truth, Graham put a disc on his state-of-the-art stereo system. The nostalgic melody of "Somewhere in Time" began drifting serenely through his small living room, and he murmured, "I get halfway into this music and a little voice says to me, 'You gotta continue. It's about truth, honesty and integrity—you can't quit.' "

Ed. Note: Parts of the above profile figure into a confusing but possibly valuable information trail threading through the UFO community. As part of a special investigation, ***UFO*** *will attempt to offer more facts in future issues.*

In brief...

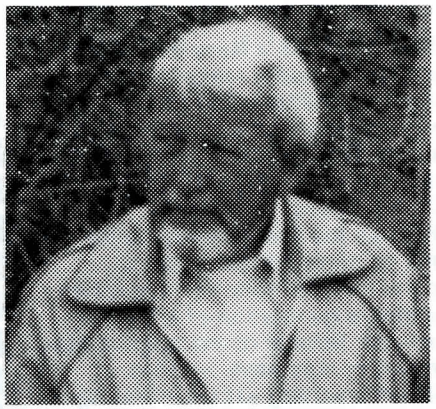
Wendelle Stevens

Ufology's renegade author-publisher Wendelle Stevens, just released after a four-year stint in prison after being convicted on three counts of molesting a minor, refused to comment on the unfounded rumor pumped into the UFO circuit that the criminal prosecution was actually a "set-up" by forces bent on shutting down his virtually one-man UFO book operation.

"I'm forbidden to discuss my case, by court order," Stevens told ***UFO.*** "It's really nobody's business. I have no idea why you want to write about it . . ."

Stevens began his UFO career honorably, as a senior staff member of the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Foreign Technology—the division in charge of such concerned gestures by the U.S. Air Force as Projects Sign and Grudge.

A couple of ufologists managed to obtain copies of Stevens' court papers, which document his criminal conviction and, they say, prove the facts of the case. While in prison, Stevens was able to oversee the publishing of ***UFO Crash At Aztec***, co-authored with researcher Bill Steinman. By way of Stevens' other no-holds-barred editions—***UFO Contact from the Pleiades, UFO Contact from Reticulum*** and ***UFO Contact from Iarga***, to name some of the more popular reports of the 14 now in print—the UFO-reading public has been introduced to some of the teeming hoards of ETs apparently visiting earth. "If you read all the reports, you'll get a pretty good cross-section



Wendelle Stevens

of the whole phenomenon, the entities involved and the things they've undertaken," Stevens says.

More than one fellow UFO researcher has come down pretty hard on Stevens, usually calling his information undependable, inconclusive and worse.

Be that as it may, he apparently won't be thumbing his nose at such accusations by writing more books. Why not? "You're asking me a lot of questions I would have problems in discussing!" Stevens grumbled. "For one thing, I want to spend my time investigating. I'm not going to take the time out to write up anything else."

Though he shied away from talking about his case, Stevens did have a word of advice for people trailing information about UFOs—and for those digging the dirt on other ufologists, perhaps? "When 'they' pick you and give you information, you have to be very careful what you do with it, how you treat it.

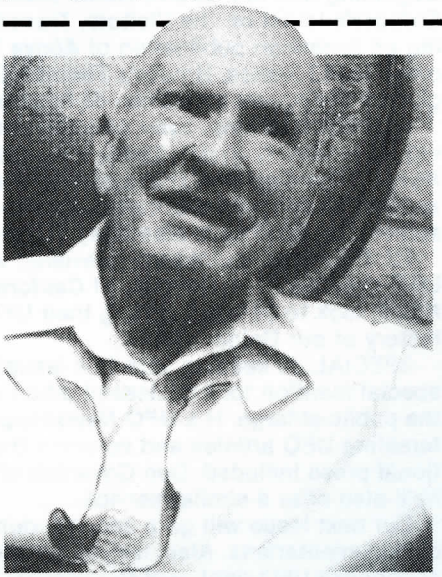
"But the covert information that you discover for yourself is probably more reliable—because *you* are the one choosing whom you get it from."

In tribute...

Robert Heinlein

The author who introduced the concept of benevolent extraterrestrial contact to the general public more than two decades before "E.T.," Robert A. Heinlein, died quietly in his sleep on May 7 in his home in Carmel, California. He had battled emphysema and heart problems for more than 10 years, and was 80 years old when he died.

Perhaps most loved among Heinlein's fictional creations was a human raised by Martians named Michael Valentine Smith, a character



Robert A. Heinlein

who touched both science fiction readers and the general public with his otherworldly innocence and sense of wonder at earthling behavior. The book was ***Stranger In a Strange Land***, and it became the first science fiction novel in history to make the ***New York Times*** bestseller list. Valentine's attempts to "grok" (or comprehend) life on earth became a metaphor for a young generation alienated by their parents' values, and his sensitive, free-love gestalt expressed their desire for emotional honesty and freedom.

Heinlein believed in the idea of space travel, and felt humanity would someday explore at least our own stellar neighborhood, those stars closest to our sun, a belief reflected

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in his fiction. As a Navy engineer and scientist, he had a realistic grasp on space possibilities, and in fact developed the high-altititude pressure suits for Navy pilots which were the forerunners of the pressurized space suits astronauts wear today.

He was the first science fiction writer to bring futurist ideas to general interest national magazines, inspiring a generation of space enthusiasts. Several of the original Mercury astronauts have credited Heinlein's writing with stimulating their interest in space exploration.

He also maintained that there had to be intelligent life off-planet. One of the concerns reflected often in his work, however, is that contact with these foreign civilizations might have harmful aspects—not for us as much as for the alien culture.

The legacy left from his work also embodies the idea that if we don't change ourselves, no amount of technology will do it for us. Many of his story extrapolations, those things his futuristic characters have taken for granted since he began writing in 1939, are now becoming reality. Such ideas as home computers interfacing with banks and stores, electronic mail functions and the concept of accessing a database—even for entertainment—are a few of our everyday conveniences Heinlein predicted.

Heinlein won more Hugo awards [given annually by readers for best speculative fiction novel of the year] than any other author. The four awards were given for ***Double Star*** (1956), ***Starship Troopers*** (1959), ***Stranger in a Strange Land*** (1961) and ***The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*** (1966). He received the top honor from his peers in 1976, when the Science Fiction Writers of America gave him their first Grand Master Nebula Award in recognition of lifelong achievement in the literature of science and speculative fiction.

Many critics and observers of the American social scene give Heinlein and his books credit for helping establish a national mood that allowed for differing ideas, thoughts and lifetstyles.

Though Heinlein is gone, his extraordinary and valuable vision of the future continues to influence many.

—Jay Lebsch

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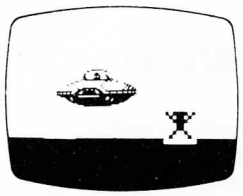

UFO . . . MediaWatch

Reflecting on comments some members of the media have made about the cat-and-mouse game their "official sources" are playing with them, the temptation to take these hidden media manipulators to task is enormous. Are journalists and researchers who allow themselves to be doled out information according to secret, supposedly "master plans" simply offering themselves as puppets for disinformation? Perhaps even they can't know for sure; until we deal with our own "Deep Throats," we can't pass judgement. And we realize that even in passing along information that could be disinformation—from the grapevine and more visible UFO sources—we too are subject to being used in this way. ***UFO*** has not yet found a dependable bullshit detector (perhaps we should ask the NSA!), so some BS is an inevitable part of the scene.

Remember, too, that the BS dished out by Intelligence is thought to often be elegantly spiced with facts—important facts, seductive facts, incredible facts. And those facts or even the promise of them justify walking into BS, navigating realms of potential lies, disception and disinformation, and risking the approbrium of assorted UFO purists.

BOOKS: Some modification and correction: A call to Putnam Group enlightened us that they are *not* the publishers of ***Clear Intent***. According to co-author ***Larry Fawcett***, Prentice Hall (Englewood Cliffs, NJ) published the book, now out-of-print after nine editions. (Fawcett is clearly suspicious of how the company handled—or mishandled— the book's promotion and distribution.)

Author Ron Story is putting together an updated, expanded edition of that neat resource, ***The Encyclopedia of UFOS*** . . . ***Mike Bershad***, heard from in last issue's Contactee: First Hand, was the pseudo-named Steve Kilburn in Hopkins' first, ***Missing Time***, not, as incorrectly stated, in the subsequent abduction bestseller ***Intruders*** . . . A 'tsk, tsk' call from a local UFO researcher leads us to reconsider the conspiracy story in ***Alternative 3***, written about in last issue's MediaWatch. Apparently, co-author Christopher Miles more or less admitted that the book's tale of an evil, elitist plot to conquer Mars—for all the wrong reasons—is a sham. We have a Xeroxed letter in which he says, ". . . if you look at the film or read the book, you will realize there are hints of its inauthenticity all the way down the line. Of course it has a sprinkling of fact in it . . ."

Of course. (We haven't taken the letter to document verifiers yet!) . . . Beginning this fall, ***Ladies Home Journal*** will be serializing ***Whitley Strieber***'s latest on the Visitors, ***Transformation*** . . . William Morrow is taking on American publication of ***Above Top Secret***, cover-up expose by that *other* MJ-12 leakee, Britain's ***Timothy Good*** . . . and Avon Paperbacks will give us the American edition of ***Phenomenon*** (reviewed this issue) . . .

MOVIES: Heavens. Even with the endless writer's strike, there's a *lot* going on in film. A coupla items: Twentieth Century Fox has the ***Gale Anne Hurd-James Cameron*** team, of ***Aliens*** and ***Terminator*** prestige, conjuring another alienish doozie, called ***Abyss***—probably not ready for release 'til summer of '89. Fox is also busy in development with ***Intruders***.

TV: Canadian and Italian television wants leads for use in making their UFO specials . . . Producers of ***California Stories***, from L.A. PBS station ***KCET,*** look to be approaching their UFO program from the rich contactee history of our Golden State.

SPECIAL: In keeping with this issue's focus, ***Lucius Farish*** deserves special mention for his dissemination of national UFO news coverage to the public-at-large. His ***UFO Newsclipping Service*** rounds up all the interesting UFO articles and columns that run nationally, with some international press included. Don Coverdell of Book Brokers in Florida tells us he'll also offer a similar service.

Our next issue will go a second round with media, featuring the doings of documentarians. Also, maybe an intriguing round two in the more *spoooooky* UFO ring! ***—V.C.***

F O R U M

Scene watchers consider the Gulf Breeze, FL contact case as one potential winner in ufology's "most likely to have proof" sweepstakes, a winner-take-all race that will surely make headlines when the time is right. The man behind the camera of gulf coast UFOs, ostensibly-anonymous "Mr. Ed," has been the shy leading character in this UFO flap of the decade. On the skeptical side, photo researchers with little to work with find "Ed's" photos a bit dicey in terms of actual photographic viability.

While the checkered history of UFO photography betrays sharp hucksters and hoaxsters all over the place, "Ed" finds himself and his family striving to maintain some equilibrium amidst the UFO storm his photos have created. Are they real? Are there aliens? The jury is out.

You May See A UFO—But DON'T Take A Photo! By "Mr. Ed"

On a Friday night, you are returning home from a quick trip to the market, having picked up a few items you need for dinner. As you round the corner and approach your house, you observe an odd glow above the trees to your right. By driving closer to home, you are also getting closer to the strange glow. Now the glow can be seen to have a row of portholes around its center. You are stunned. You stop the car and stare at the UFO. It is less than 150 feet away and is hovering 40 feet above the road. Then *flash*—it's gone.

Now, that is the scene. What should you do?

Go into the house and tell your family?

Perhaps call the police?

Call your neighbors?

Call the local newspaper or TV news?

All of these ideas are fine—as long as you *Don't photograph it!*

If you just have a sighting—no photos—certain things are inevitable:

—Your family will believe you and want to see the UFO also.

—The police may respond if they have several calls, but will more than likely refer your call to a private UFO group.

—Your neighbors may be polite and listen to your tale (depending on how well they know you) but will likely cast a suspicious eye in your direction.

—The news media will quickly ask if anyone else was with you to corroborate your sighting. If you say no, they'll smile and say, "thanks for calling, but no thanks."

Now consider what happens if you had taken a photograph of the UFO and offered it as proof.

—Your family will "flip" with excitement, because they know you are telling the truth.

—The police will still refer you to a private UFO group. After all, what can they do about it? There is nobody or nothing there to subdue or arrest.

—Your neighbors will be amazed and may or may not think it's a trick. Most likely, you will hear a comment like, "When I see it with my own eyes, then I'll believe it."

—Your local newspaper will also be suspicious. If the UFO is clearly shown in the photograph as opposed to a light in the sky, the newspapers will ask what type of camera was used. Maybe it was a 35 mm. Oops, bad selection—everybody knows that a 35 mm can easily be double-exposed. Try a Polaroid. Well, that's better, but there is no negative to analyze. If you were lucky, maybe there was a tree in front of and behind the UFO that shows in the photo. That would pretty well rule out double exposure, so now the paper decides to run your photograph.

Front page coverage! But herein lies the problem: Photographs that support your sighting drive the debunkers crazy. (I am not referring to Philip Klass when I use the term "debunker." I have never seen or talked to this man who is considered the foremost UFO debunker in the United States. Phil Klass has been quoted as having no interest in the Gulf Breeze sightings. When I say "debunker," I am including investigators, researchers and reporters who jump to conclusions before all the facts are in.)

As your photograph is perceived as valid more and more often, the debunkers go into high gear. Failing to prove the photo is fake, they will start in on you.

First you must submit to a lie detector test. When you pass the test, they will either:

A. Ask for another test—and on and on—hoping you will ultimately fail.

B. Claim that polygraph tests are unreliable (but had you failed the test, they would have vigorously waved the results in front of the media).

Second, you will be checked out at the credit bureau. (What *that* has to do with UFOs, I'll never know.)

Third, you must submit to a background check.

Remember, all this fuss resulted because you TOOK A PHOTOGRAPH, and debunkers hate photographs they can't dismiss as airplanes or Venus. The gauntlet has been thrown down, and there is fire in their eyes. You must be proven to be a hoaxer and ridiculed in the public eye.

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Unknown to you, they start a blitz of reports which they label "news releases." Usually, a lone debunker operates under the biggest letterhead name he can muster. *INTERNATIONAL* . . . this and that. *PROJECT* . . . this and that. When questioned about this awesome-sounding "think tank," there is normally only Mr. Debunker. The reports he circulates are truly impressive. Full of self-assured accusations and conclusions, the report will always proclaim the bold final word: *HOAX*. Later, when his "facts" are shown to be disinformation, he will ignore the corrections and label them miscellaneous.

He has succeeded in his task. He has confused and distracted the public's attention. Even if he is forced to make a media retraction, he still wins, because the accusation always draws more attention than the subsequent retraction.

The debunker's "ace card" is his anonymous source. It usually goes like this: "I have interviewed a reliable source who knows the witness. My source verifies that the witness is a jokester and a hoaxer."

The saddest part of this story is that when these disinformation reports are circulated, they are read and reprinted. Others assume they are accurate, and quote from them—and others—on and on. Again, this is what the debunker hoped would happen. ALL THIS IS BECAUSE YOU SAW SOMETHING IN THE SKY AND SHOT A PHOTO OF IT. Simple—no photograph in the paper, no attack from debunkers.

* * *

By now, you must have figured out that I write these words from personal experience and with a certain level of bias. I have learned the painful truth about debunkers. They make their pronouncements without regard to the effect their personal attacks will have on witnesses and their families.

There is a need for skepticism. I, too, was a skeptic before my Nov. 11, 1987 sighting. And even now when I read of other sightings, I question what the witness might have seen. But there is a difference between a skeptic and a critic/debunker.

I cry out for intelligent skeptics to replace the ridiculing critic. The difference is that when an analysis of the evidence is complete the skeptic may say, "maybe," or "inconclusive," but the debunker never waits for the analysis before he yells, "airplane—Venus—or hoax."

Most serious investigators are trained to be skeptical, as they should be. In the Gulf Breeze case, they seem to be impressed with the quality and quantity (over 130 witnesses) of sightings.

My thanks to the many serious investigators who have spent hundreds of hours gathering the facts and interviewing the witnesses. The scientists analyzing the photographs should receive a medal—for without this levelheaded, skeptical "show me" attitude, the debunkers could win.

Serious but skeptical investigators are lifting the cloak of ridicule from the UFO phenomenon with which a few debunkers would hide the truth, and the truth will always prevail.

"Mr. Ed" is the puzzling pseudonym of a respected building executive who lives in Gulf Breeze, FL. Since late 1987, the amateur photographer has used a Polaroid and other types of cameras to snap dozens of UFO photos.

Intelligent skeptics and believers alike are influenced by how and when information is presented to the public. The Gulf Breeze photos are a current "cause celebre," yet most researchers have been unable to review everything "Mr. Ed" produced. Taking the miniscule evidence at hand, Francois Beaulieu makes an educated assessment, mostly warning against uncritical acceptance of awesome UFO photography.

Gulf Breeze: True or False?

By Francois Beaulieu

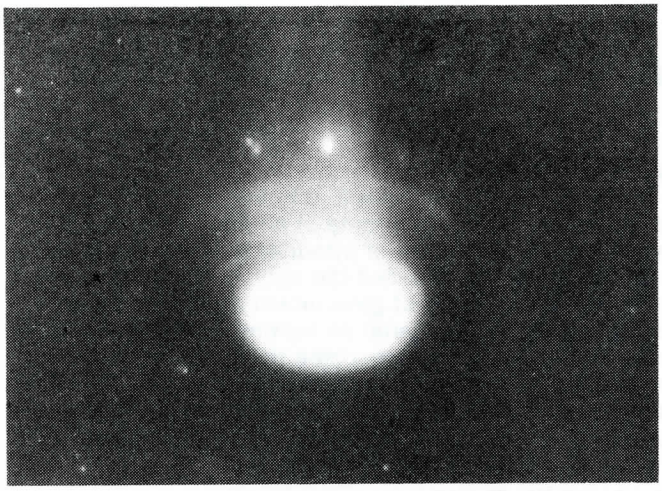
First of all, my position is unique in that I had several UFO experiences some years ago, which proved to me the reality of extraterrestrial visitors. So therefore, I am not in any way trying to debunk the UFO phenomenon. But I am also a photographer who started out in photography at age 13 by making fake UFO photographs. My interest certainly was not to deceive, but rather to study just how easy (or difficult) it was to fake UFO photographs, so that I might become an expert at identifying the true from the false.

There is no question in my mind that certain species of extraterrestrial origin do visit the Earth, and that contacts are being established with some earth people. Some people actually have these contacts; others think they have these contacts, and still others *wish* they had these contacts. Today I sincerely believe that few of the first type speak out publicly and that most that are heard from through the media are taking their wishes for reality and helping them along with a bit of photographic doctoring.

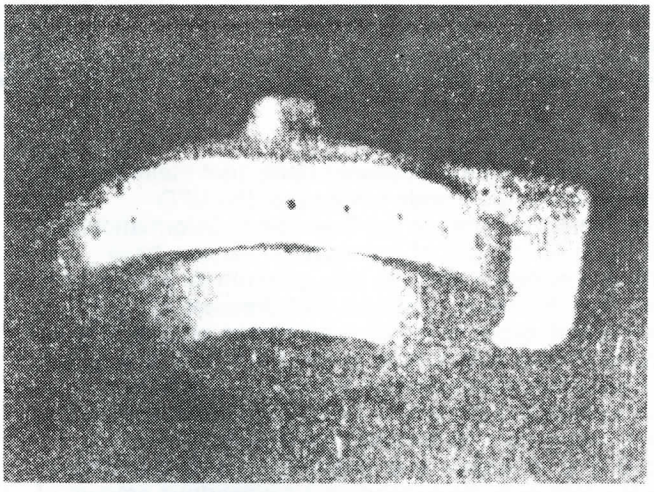
Now to the case which is the subject of this article, the one referred to as "Mr. Ed." As soon as I saw the "Mr. Ed" UFO photographs, I immediately became suspicious of their authenticity. Granted, I have not been fortunate enough to have viewed all the photographs of UFOs taken by "Mr. Ed." The only ones I have seen were printed in ***UFO*** (Vols. 3, Nos. 1 & 2). All appear to be simple double exposures.

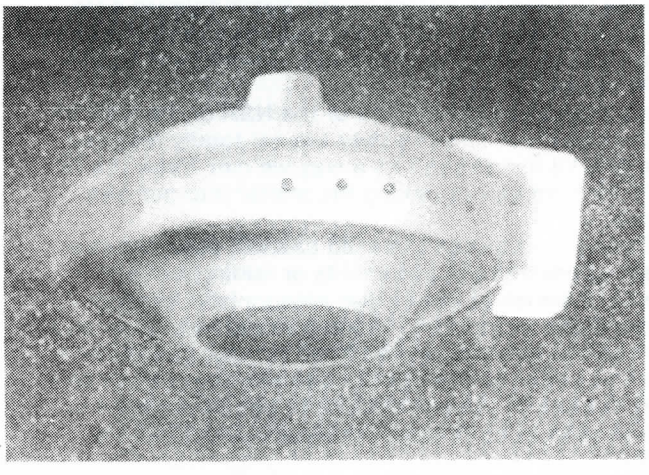
The "Ed" photographs also strike me as quite reminiscent of another UFO photograph which was widely published many years back. In 1955, August C. Roberts, a well-known UFO investigator and photographer, submitted a fake UFO photograph to the Chicago American newspaper. He did not give any details at publication time regarding the fact that it was a hoax, but stated later that it was. (It's unclear just who made the fake photo.) His submission was apparently not meant to deceive but was part of his own evaluations of UFO trickery techniques. It was also revealed that the photo was of a gas burner double-exposed over the sky.

Subsequently, the photograph was reproduced in countless magazines—but *without* any indication that it was an acknowledged fake. Comparison of "Mr. Ed's" Polaroid shots with August Roberts' 1955 photo makes us consider seriously the possibility that the Gulf Breeze photos are of an extremely similar prop.



***'ED' BE NIMBLE**—Gulf Breeze UFO photographs (taken with Polaroid) show the object with its own internal light source, helpful for distance determinations.*





***BURNED**—A faked UFO photo that appears similar to "Mr. Ed's." Submitted for publication by August C. Roberts during the saucer-happy '50s, the object was found to be an inverted gas burner double-exposed.*

REPRINTED FROM INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER

According to a recent article on the case (***UFO***, Vol. 3, No. 2),"Mr. Ed" was given a Nimslo 3-D camera to shoot the spacecraft. That report stated that ten of the shots show the "craft." There are two major problems with this camera, however, which make me question the validity of any analysis performed on photographs, assuming theys were made at night.

First and foremost is the fact that the Nimslo has a minimum shutter speed of 1/30th of a second, which is far too fast for any low-light situation, let alone night-time photography, even using 400 ASA film—the maximum allowed on this camera.

The maximum lens opening on a Nimslo is f5.6, which makes it nearly impossible to clearly record subjects in very low light conditions. Only objects which are very bright will record at night with this lens capability, and if there are no other points of reference, relative distance is far more difficult to establish. (Again, I am assuming "Mr. Ed's" photos were all taken at night.)

The small photolens interaxial makes stereo photogrammetric analysis quite difficult, and resulting parallax at the film plane is minimal. I am making these points, of course, assuming that identifiable, close range subjects or light sources are not present in the photographs. When other bright points of reference are available, then more accurate evaluation of distance is possible. Under those circumstances, the photographs would fully deserve serious attention.

With these considerations in mind, I submit that photogrammetric analysis from nighttime exposures made with the Nimslo camera cannot be conclusive, and that evaluations based on this analysis are likely to be highly subjective.

Again, unlike other researchers, I have not been able to view the entire body of evidence. However, I feel it's important that the public be exposed to aspects of UFO photography that might call the authenticity of specific UFO photos into question.

I look forward to seeing what evidence other researchers in the Gulf Breeze case may bring to light, which might make these concerns inconsequential and perhaps fully prove the authenticity of the Gulf Breeze photographs.

Canadian Francois Beaulieu has spent two decades as a UFO researcher, specializing for the last eight years in three-dimensional photography.

Grassroots Tactics To End The 'Cover-Up'

By Vincent T. Migliore

Several books have appeared lately that claim there is a massive and worldwide cover-up of the UFO phenomenon. Thanks to the Freedom of Information Act and the diligent work of researchers, we now have verifiable evidence that the U.S. government knows a lot more than it's telling. Fawcett and Greenwood's book, ***Clear Intent***, exposes in detail numerous official letters, reports, cables and memos relating to flying saucers. One such document states "the matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States government, rating even higher than the H-bomb." [1]

If this is the case—and I think it is—then the federal government must be expending a tremendous amount of energy to keep the matter secret. Some sources even suggest government or trans-government covert actions that ridicule, harass and discredit anyone who reports a UFO incident.[2] [3]

It's easy to blame the CIA or the NSA or the KGB for the secrecy, but I believe they are not totally responsible. And I'd like to suggest a way we can "blow the lid off" the coverup—by taking the matter into our own hands.

Ending the coverup, I should caution, does not mean stealing government documents or raiding military bases. Experience shows that antagonistic behavior is rarely if ever productive. I think it would help to try and understand how the "authorities" got into this mess in the first place, to intelligently consider the predicament they are now in. Then the decision can be made as to how to best bring this controversial subject into the light.

The modern UFO era began in the late '40s, the era of the "cold war" and the start of the build-up of our nuclear arsenals. In the '50s, amid an atmosphere of secrecy, fear and mistrust, flying saucer reports started pouring into government agencies. UFO encounters at military and nuclear facilities were automatically classified, but as sightings and encounters continued, the coverup began. Why? No one can say for sure, although there is certainly no shortage of reasonable theories. Mass hysteria might result from knowing the facts, or loss of faith in the government. Americans thought the UFOs might be Russian secret weapons, and vice-versa. Perhaps the UFO occupants don't want the matter made public, don't want to be worshipped as gods.

No matter what the reasons, the coverup is real. UFOs are real. And the wall of denial is starting to crumble. There are just too many reliable witnesses and too much public awareness for the secrecy to continue. There are, in fact, subtle indications that the U.S. government now realizes it's in a no-win position, and has started to release some information.[4] [5]

So how do we grease the wheel of progress and open the files? One school of thought is to focus on the problem. This is typified by books and articles that document the coverup and show us that we're not being told the whole truth. While shedding light on the subject, this approach unfortunately leads to anger, blame and frustration. The only questions remaining are who is guilty and what their punishment should be. This is often counter-productive.

A more productive approach is to focus on the solution. What do we want to come of all this? Speaking for myself, I want a free flow of information. I want to know it all—the good, the bad and the ugly. I want access to the photos and reports of government agencies. I want acceptance of UFO material as legitimate for scientific study. I want a public atmosphere that's courageous and open-minded enough to discuss all the psychological, sociological, anthropological, religious, political, economic, physical and metaphysical aspects of contact with aliens or extraterrestrials.

Why Aren't We There?

Why don't we have this free flow of information? I will cite just a few reasons:

1. Non-reporting. I once attended a UFO seminar where J. Allen Hynek was speaking. He asked, "How many people here have ever seen a UFO? About half the attendees raised their hands. A recent Gallup poll indicates that 9 percent of the U.S. population have witnessed UFOs, but at a convention on the subject you'd expect a much higher incidence. Then he asked, "How many have ever reported it?" Now only 5 percent of the hands went up. This suggests that roughly 90 percent of all UFO sightings go unreported. Lately, the abduction form of contact has emerged. Many abductees report the taking of sperm or ova specimens, and they admit feeling "dirty," "ashamed," or "as if I had been raped." This creates an atmosphere where reporting the encounter is even less likely to occur.

2. Investigator secrecy. It is perfectly appropriate for witness privacy and other reasons to withhold certain aspects of a UFO encounter. Once the investigation is completed, however, I believe there is a moral obligation to let others know the findings. This is rarely seen. Instead individuals and organizations are often bickering and hiding information from each other and the public. Examples—From ***Night Siege***,[6] concerning reports of contacts with extraterrestrials:

"We had mixed feelings about the following material ourselves, and decided to include it only after lengthy debate."

Investigators withholding data assessed as dubious is generally wise, but perhaps not when it's crucial to having the fullest possible picture of a given case.

And from ***Light Years***[7] concerning cooperation with other investigators:

"We all finally agreed," Stevens admitted later, *"that we wouldn't discuss the facts in the case anymore, with anybody outside outside our group, and if anybody pressed for answers, try to get out of it, to drag a hare across the trail and throw them off."*

Does this sound like sharing? Or is it a not-so-subtle message that "you're not quite good, intelligent or emotionally balanced enough to handle what we know"? Isn't this exactly what we accuse our governments of doing? Yet we are doing it to ourselves and each other.

3. High Strangeness. The UFO experience, to quote the late Dr. Hynek, often contains events of "high

strangeness." Encounters with occupants range from orbs of light to humanoids to monsters. Contactees report time warps, fantastic voyages, miracle cures, spiritual visions and events that seem to bend the laws of physics. Contactees have said occupants claim to be from such diverse realms as the Pleiades, Reticulum, Arcturus, Venus, the inner earth and other dimensions. With this level of complexity, it is difficult to gain a comprehensive understanding of UFOs.

4. Denial by the Authorities. We are in the midst of a coverup, a "Cosmic Watergate" that is denying us access to important information collected by our military and security agencies. Although this is the most obvious problem, it is not the only block to free information. Any agency or institution with authority, power or an investment in the status quo may feel threatened by the reality of UFOs. These people and organizations are afraid of losing their power, and the allegiance of their subjects.

What Can We Do?

In spite of these difficulies, I think there is much we can do to bring it all out into the open. In fact, I believe this is a task of tremendous importance to mankind. As Jacques Vallee puts it, "The only thing that might help us make some progress toward an understanding of the phenomenon is the publication of good reports . . . they must circulate freely." [8]

Here's what I suggest:

"To have, give all to all." [9] To have information, give information. ANYONE who has had an experience with a UFO, or knows someone who has, yet has not reported it, should do so now. Have it typed or written up, then make photocopies and mail them to ALL the major UFO organizations. (Many are found listed in the back of ***UFO***).

Mail a copy of your report or your concerns to your senator or congressman, asking for a congressional investigation of UFOs. Copy a page or two from ***Clear Intent***, or your favorite flying saucer book, and mail that, too. Tell them you won't be satisfied with the old rehash form letter saying UFOs don't exist.

Inform yourself of all that's going on with UFOs, with ecology, with dolphins, with crystals, with the world in crisis. Look into some of the "channeled" books relating to UFOs.[10] All these things are connected, and it's coming to a head. A polarization is taking place, a cosmic speedup. In ***Communion***, Whitley Strieber writes, "I have a feeling it's right on top of us, too. My feeling is that a cycle sped up recently, a lot. It's going fast, not slow." [11] It's important to keep abreast of these changes and how they integrate into the whole New Age movement.

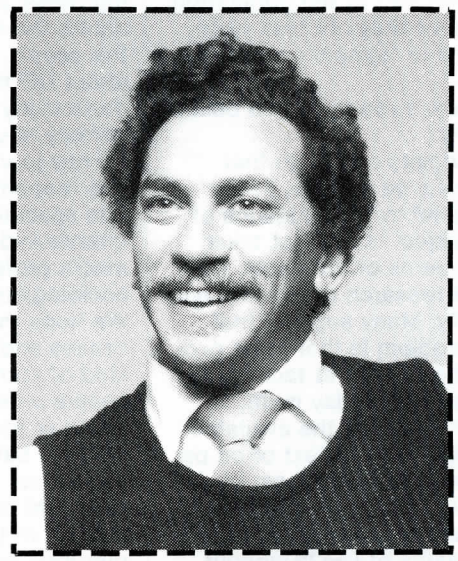
Finally, question authority. We, the people, ARE the government. We can demand change; we can take matters into our own hands. This doesn't mean anarchy, but due to the nature of the material we are dealing with, it may mean a revolution: a revolution of ideas, authority and perhaps even the evolution of mankind.

Right now, change is taking place on many levels. Tune into it. Respect yourself enough to discuss without fear whatever your beliefs are. There are many little things we can do to end the coverup—think of some yourself. "If the people will lead, the leaders will follow."

Everyone has a contribution to make, and together, let's do it.

Footnotes:

(1) Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood, *Clear Intent*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1984.
(2) The "JMP" letter, *Just Cause* newsletter, No. 10, March 1988, page 4. CAUS, P.O. Box 218, Coventry, CT 06238.
(3) Wendelle C. Stevens and William J. Hermann, *UFO...Contact from Reticulum*, Tucson: c. Wendelle C. Stevens, 1981. Pages 278-282.
(4) *UFO Magazine*, "Panel Forsees Government 'Uncoverup," Los Angeles: California UFO, 1987.
(5) Brenda Butler, Dot Street and Jenny Randles, *Sky Crash*, London: Grafton Books, 1986. Pages 197-198.
(6) Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Philip J. Imbrogno and Bob Pratt, *Night Siege: The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings*, New York: Ballantine Books, 1987. Page 160.
(7)Gary Kinder, *Light Years*, New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1987. Page 196.
(8) Jacques Vallee, *Passport to Magonia, Chicago: Regnery Co., 1969. Page 159.*
(9) A Course in Miracles, Vol. 1, Text. Tiburon: Foundation for Inner Peace, 1984. Page 98.
(10) Raphael (Ken Carey), *The Starseed Transmissions*, Kansas City: Uni Sun, 1986. Page 6.
(11) Whitley Strieber, *Communion*, New York: Beech Tree Books, 1987. Page 264.



Vince T. Migliore has a degree in nursing and a B.A in psychology. A UFO researcher since his own sighting in 1972, he speaks on "A Course in Miracles" as well as the spiritual aspects of UFOs. He currently works in medical and marketing research.

Has the press been responsible?

Overcoming the stigma and sensationalism of UFOs

By Sherie Stark

If the polls are any indication, the American public feels it knows quite a bit about UFOs.

Since UFOs burst into the public consciousness in 1947, the "awareness factor" of the subject has grown steadily, ranging in the low and high 90 percentages, depending on the year and the poll—more than the awareness ratings for movie or rock stars, presidents, Third World countries or political platforms.

And not only do an overwhelming percentage of people claim to have read or heard something about UFOs, but over half of the population say they believe they are real—not hallucinations or figments of the imagination.

But just how strongly is this belief held, and why?

Many ufologists complain that while there may be a loose, inculturated belief in the existence of UFOs, the subject is still not taken seriously, in terms of the public calling for more research or government accountability. Many suggest that part of the problem is that most people accept the subject at face value, almost like a modern-day myth, without ever analyzing the available data, or seeing it in context or on par with other "serious" sciences.

The skeptics complain that as with other anomalous phenomena, people accept the reality of UFOs without demanding scientific proof, because they want to believe in them and because they are subject to suggestibility and wish-fulfillment.

Observers of the scene could well take the stance that both sides are complaining about the same lack of critical thinking in forming this apparently overwhelming "belief."

So how *do* people form their beliefs on this subject?

A percentage of information is no doubt from what is perceived as first-hand experience, or from neighbors, relatives or friends who think they have seen UFOs first-hand. Certainly science fiction literature, movies and television also have a strong effect on people's beliefs; even though people may rationally realize that those media are fiction, they probably subconsciously incorporate some of those ideas into their view of the universe of possibilities.

But the brunt of the responsibility of investigating and informing the public about whatever is going on with this subject—or any other—no doubt falls, as it should, on the working press. (Indeed, Gallup polls indicate the more than 90 percent of the people who have heard or read about UFOs claim the news media, particularly newspapers, as their primary source of information.)

How journalists have carried out this responsibility is the subject of this special section, for which we've interviewed journalists and other media professionals, academicians, sociologists, ufologists and skeptics. We hope that by looking at the processes and problems of this specific kind of journalism, we may motivate people on every step of the ladder to refine or appreciate anew the delicate balance of having an open yet critical mind and to perhaps shed new light on how and why the subject of UFOs may have been distorted by media coverage all these years.

"One of the problems is that the news media haven't really taken UFOs seriously. With the exception of the tabloid press, they're pretty much skeptical of it, and the reason for this is that newspapers are a product of an environment that listens to authority," says Joe Saltzman, chairman of the Broadcasting sequence at the University of Southern California's School of Journalism, an Emmy-winning documentary producer, formerly with CBS, and a prolific print and electronic journalist.

Joe Saltzman

"Contrary to the popular opinion that newspapers are 'for the people' and about 'righting the wrongs in the world,' they are actually very respectful of authority, and the authority in the United States, ever since the beginning of this whole thing, has been that UFOs do not exist. That's been the party line.

"If a Nobel-prize winning scientist said that UFOs exist, they would probably print it with a little bit of legitimacy, but if a farmer or even an airline pilot says it, they'll always have an authority saying that this can't be, or else they'll leave it very much up in the air," Saltzman says.

"I think it would take a flying saucer on live television being beamed across the country with everybody seeing it at one time to make a newspaper or magazine editor really accept the validity of UFOs and do a story that wasn't very skeptical."

UFOs in the News..

TIMES-DEMOCRAT

Dial 326-5111

DAVENPORT — BETTENDORF, IOWA, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1967

70 Pages

DEPUTIES, OTHERS REPORT WATCHING UFO

'Mysterious Red Light In Illinois Sky

By WALLACE KOENIG

Sightings of a strange airborne object over points in Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois Wednesday night and early today added another chapter to the Unidentified Flying Object mystery in the Quad - City area.

Two deputy sheriffs in the two counties immediately to the south of the Quad - Cities were among a half dozen persons who were puzzled at what they saw between 11:30 p.m. Wednesday and 3:30 a.m. today.

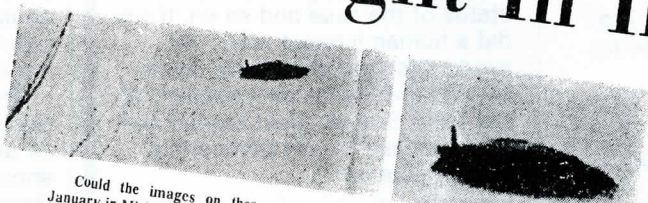
No reports were made to the Federal Aviation Agency control tower at the Quad - City Airport, according to Ernest Mann, control chief, who said sheriff's offices have been advised to make such reports to military authorities.

The sighting in Henry County was reported by Deputy Robert Powell of Geneseo.

He said he was traveling Highway 82 toward the Henry County seat at Cambridge when he saw lights of an object ahead as he came to the top of a hill a mile north of the junction with Highway 81.

When he reached the junction he said he stopped his car for about five minutes.

Powell, who has piloted airplanes, said, "The object moved slowly and would [illegible] momentarily and then continue on a southerly [illegible]



Could the images on these authenticated pictures of a UFO taken in January in Michigan be similar to reported UFOs in Illinois? AP Wirephoto

"It [illegible]

the left side of the pilot and the green on the right were reversed and there was the usual white light near the tail.

Glaring Light

"The appearance of a glaring red light puzzled me most. When it came on at irregular intervals as if it was manually operated, it was so bright I could not see the ordinary marker lights. I heard no sound."

County sheriff's [illegible] Galesburg at 12:30 a.m. eating a deputy had se similar object while patro at Knoxville.

Deputy Frank Coursor Knox County sighted the ject twice, shortly after m night and at 3:30 a.m. too

Group Watches

He said [illegible]

LOGGED REPORTS OF 300 LANDINGS OF ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD

Sooner Keeps Track Of 'Little Green Men' From Outer Space

OKLAHOMA CITY (UPI)— When 7 - month - old Christian Hewes is old enough to recognize a "man from outer space," he should provide a better description than "a little green man." That is if he follows a tradition established by the other members of his family.

In 1957, when most people were looking into the sky for flying saucers, 13-year-old Hayden Hewes was reading and collecting every newspaper story he could get his hands on.

He wrote letters to those persons in the story and asked more information. It started as a curiosity and turned into a science.

"I still remember some of those first articles," Hewes said. "One was entitled 'Illinois Trooper Spots Flying Whatzit' and another 'Strange Lights Float Across California Skies.'"

Today Hewes is founder and director of the 10,000 member International UFO Bureau with members in nearly every state and in 37 foreign countries.

His wife Kietha and children Laura, 7 and Tammy, 3, share an interest in a scientific subject still regarded by most people as strange.

Hewes has gained notoriety as an observer by his conservative scientific attitude which lends credibility to his lectures and writings.

He is not the type of person who claims a round trip to another planet and back, nor does he claim to know any aliens, but he says "there is no doubt to their existence."

He is not out to prove there are objects from another world in our atmosphere, but rather "what they are, where they come from and why they are here."

Hewes has become a collecting agent for thousands of Unidentified Flying Object reports, some credible and some "a little hoaky." He is the author of numerous publications on his findings.

He has been featured on national television, a French motion picture and a soon to be released documentary film in the United States.

Hewes has been a contributor to numerous newspapers and often writes a column for the Oklahoma Journal in Oklahoma City, where his international headquarters are located.

He studied Aeronautical and Space Engineering at Oklahoma University, but now contributes information to graduate students in Masters level research.

Though he has logged thousands of sightings through his organization, he considers the identification of three types of aliens as his most signifcant work.

"We have taken 300 reports of landings in which aliens were seen, and classified them into three types most commonly seen," he said. "The research was done for a book I am working on."

The type-1 alien looks nearly human though his arms are long and his head giantly out of porportion. Type-2 is most like man, but type-3 is a lower form of animal."

"We don't think type-3 would be able to come here by himself," Hewes said. "He is similar to a trained monkey or some other animal capable of grasping samples of nearly anything . . . its part of a reconnaissance program."

"We still have places on earth where spears and knives are the primary weapons. If a native should look up to the sky and see a giant jet-liner up there, he knows he saw it, but has a problem getting anyone else to believe him," Hewes said. "That's where we are. alien space craft, but are scorned when they tell someone about it. Believe me, we are interested."

Hewes said he would rather hear a report from a person who has been afraid to talk about a sighting, than someone who wants headlines.

"They are usually more factual and certainly a lit more credible," he said.

The International UFO Bureau (IUFOB) maintains a panel of scientists nationwide to check on sighting reports and

(Turn to Page 5, Col. 7)

THE ENID MORNING NEWS

Mostly Cloudy

Mostly cloudy over state Sunday through Monday. Chance of light rain mainly over south half Sunday through Monday. Highs Sunday in 50s west and south and lower 60s northeast.

Enid, Oklahoma, Sunday, February 22, 1970

Australian Pilot Vanishes After 'Sighting' UFO

MELBOURNE, Australia (UPI) — "It isn't an aircraft. It's ..."

Moments after pilot Frederick Valentich told an Australian control tower an unidentified flying object with four green lights was chasing him, radio transmission was cut off, and nothing more was heard from the 20-year-old pilot or his single engine Cessna 182.

A full-scale search by the Australian air force resumed today for the plane — and its lone occupant — whose last known position was over the Bass Strait, 130 miles south of Melbourne.

Transport Department spokesman Kenneth Williams said Valentich radioed Melbourne Flight Service Control Saturday at 7:06 p.m. (5:06 a.m. EDT Sunday) and reported a UFO was following him at 4,500 feet. He described his pursuer as "a green light and sort of metallic light on the outside."

Ground control said there was no air traffic in the area below 5,000 feet.

Valentich disagreed.

"It has four bright lights — appear to be landing lights. Aircraft has just passed over me about 1,000 feet above."

Can you identify the aircraft, control asked.

"It isn't an aircraft. It's ..." Then silence.

Two minutes later, Valentich's voice rasped over the radio again.

"Melbourne, it's approaching from due east toward me ... It seems to be playing some sort of game ... Flying at a speed I cannot estimate ... It is flying past ... It is a long shape ... Cannot identify more than that ... coming for me right now ... It seems to be stationary ... I'm orbiting (circling) and the thing is orbiting on top of me also ... It has a green light and sort of metallic light on the outside."

Suddenly, Valentich reported his engine was choking.

Metallic scratching replaced the pilot's voice. Then there was no sound at all.

When Valentich did not arrive at King Island on schedule, investigators began an air search, but found no sign of the aircraft.

Air force planes sighted an oil slick about 18 miles north of King Island, but transport officials said it was not made by a light aircraft.

AN AIR TRANSPORT official said Valentich had been flying for 18 months and was accumulating hours for a commercial pilot's license.

"It is possible that he could hav become disoriented," the officia said.

"The aircraft could have inverte and he could have seen the reflec tions of the Cape Otway and King Island lighthouses on the clouds above him."

He said the Cessna's engine would fail if it was flown upside down.

Valentich's father said his son has been interested in UFO's for many years, and reported sighting one about 10 months ago.

Related Stories on Page A-4

The Weather

Mostly fair, except windward areas cloudy. Gusty north to northeast winds to 25 mph. Low tonight upper 60s, high tomorrow low 80s.

Details on Page 3

VOL. 67, NO. 296

Four Sections

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

A Gannett Newspaper

HONOLULU, HAWAII

Home

UFOs in the News.

Tabloid press doesn't make excuses

We read Joe Saltzman's criticisms of tabloid journalism to Eddie Clontz, managing editor of ***Weekly World News****, the paper which probably prints more UFO stories than all the rest of the tabloids combined. The eight-year-old publication, owned by the same company that owns* ***National Enquirer****, reaches roughly 1,100,000 readers a week. Clontz, a "long-time newspaper man" since 1970, worked for* ***The St. Petersburg Times*** *for 10 years. His response after hearing Saltzman's comments was, "Yeah, that's true."*

What goes into deciding to print your UFO stories?

If it's exciting enough. We pretty much take people at their word. We get our UFO stories from stringers around the world, and from the foreign press, and we seldom check them out. If somebody calls me up and says he's been abducted by a UFO, I would print his story.

Is there any attempt to determine if he might be crazy, or if he has any respect in the community?

No.

Is this different from the kind of coverage you give other stories?

Yeah, it's quite a bit different. If we were to do a crime story, for instance, we would have to check it out from top to bottom—check the charges with the police, check the status of the case and so on. If we did a human interest story, we would interview the people involved, and anyone on the periphery of the story. But on ghost stories and UFO stories—or any paranormal stories—we don't.

Why is that?

We consider them to be more entertainment than anything else. We don't consider them to be life or death situations, or anything involving people's livelihood or their future or anything like that. In other words, there would really be no need to "question ourselves out of the story." With the majority of UFO stories that I would get . . . a lot of the people would be mentally imbalanced, so it's something I really wouldn't concern myself with.

Has there been a resurgence of UFO stories on your paper?

Yes, we have found that our covers with UFOs seem to be doing well, and we get quite a few letters on them. . . We probably print 60, 70 stories a year now.

Is tabloid UFO coverage very different than the coverage given by dailies?

Yes. On dailies it's more of a joke—they don't take it seriously.

How is what you do different?

Our stories are written as though they are factual—very straightforwardly. And there aren't cartoons with them—we have very dramatic artwork with them.

No one from the ***National Enquirer*** *was available for comment by press time, although they did say they'll be willing to give us an interview at a later date.* ***—S.S.***

Woman, 72, pregnant for third time in 2 years!
WEEKLY WORLD NEWS
UDDER DESTRUCTION!
Angry cow knocks copter out of the sky
The story that's sending shock waves through the medical world!
DOCTOR KEEPS WIFE'S SEVERED HEAD ALIVE
She was dying of cancer in 1979!
UFO bombshell . . .
Cat lover's nightmare: Look how they stuffed my kitty!
Gold smuggler stashes nuggets in his stomach
Anguished mother can't kiss her baby
Space aliens kidnap 10,000 humans a year for slave labor

UFO BOMBSHELL—*"Space alien kidnapping" story (lower left) tells all to inquiring minds.*

Part of this situation can be attributed to the fact that the general media are put off by the way the subject has been covered in the tabloid press, he says, and are afraid of the stigma of guilt by association.

"The main problem with the tabloid coverage has been that their criterion of what makes a story truthful is if someone says something. If someone says he was abducted by a flying saucer and they can get two or three people to corroborate that, they'll print the story.

"So what you get in the tabloid press is a mixture of stories that could be true, stories that are definitely not true and stories that are ludicrous."

The "new reality" television shows, such as *That's Incredible, In Search Of* and *Unsolved Mysteries,* and talk shows such as *Oprah, Donahue* and *Geraldo,* have also compounded the situation, he says.

"They've tried to give credibility to almost any subject in the world, and it's created a situation where you see something and it's so bizarre and so distorted that you really didn't get all the information. Things like 'The Man Who Eats Dirt.'

"Suddenly UFO stories are put into this same category and it's even harder to distinguish between a legitimate news story and a publicity stunt."

Deciding whether or not to do a UFO story becomes a matter of media image, and of not wanting to have the image of being gullible, he says.

"It's not the reporters so much as the editors. They've become skeptical of doing anything on UFOs because it puts them in the same bag as the electronic and print tabloids," he says.

"If I'm a reporter, say the head of a bureau, and I call up my editor and say there's a UFO sighting that looks like a pretty interesting story, if he says no we don't want to cover that, I'm dead. I have to make a sales pitch to him, and usually you can't sell him. Editors have been burned so often on these stories that they feel there's no reason to report them."

Even when the story is reported as a legitimate news event, Saltzman says the publication will let the reader know how it feels about the story by the placement it's given—"next to the funnies or on page 74."

Similarly, he says television news anchors will usually indicate their skepticism with a joke or a pointed look, even if the report itself is unbiased. "They're in the same position as the editors, in that they don't want to be embarrassed." And in most instances, the TV reporters beat the anchors to the punch, injecting sarcasm into their stories themselves, either in their standup or in their close. "I very rarely have seen a TV UFO report that's been completely legitimate, without a little bit of snickering," Saltzman says.

Saltzman compares this subject to other topics that have received equally warped coverage in the press. He says news about offbeat medical claims and political assassination theories suffer from the same fringe associations.

'(Reporters) get into the unfortunate situation where they're so afraid of looking stupid that they're extra-cautious, or worse, condescending, or worse, they actually make fun of the story as they're doing it.'

"There was and still is a legitimate cause for investigation into the assassinations of the Kennedys, but there have been so many absurd stories and notions about this by crackpots that it's made the story seem ludicrous. You get so much reporting that can be easily be shown to be false, that the legitimate stories get buried in the avalanche of the trivialized and sensationalistic stories," he says.

Likewise, a glut of stories about quack cancer therapies has created a situation where no reporters on any major newspapers "are really legitimately going after stories about possible cancer cures, even when they have good medical evidence to back them up," says Saltzman.

"There have been so many quackeries that the whole field gets tarred, and no newspaper wants to talk about cancer cures unless they're adapted by the medical establishment."

Saltzman calls this kind of self-censorship "censorship of the worst kind." In his newswriting classes at USC, he teaches students to "look at every story on its own merit, and forget all the cliches and stereotypes; forget the past history on these kinds of stories.

"If you're a newspaper reporter and there's a UFO sighting, you investigate the story just as you would a fire or a car crash or a zoning controversy. You go in and investigate it, and if there are enough facts to warrant coverage you write it in as clear, concise, fair and accurate a way as you can. You don't prejudge the story, and you don't try to be judge and jury while you're doing it. I don't think the reporter has to have evidence to prove that this has happened for it to be a responsible story.

"If the reporter goes out and the people who sighted the UFO are legitimate citizens of the community, they have responsibilities, they're not crackpots, they don't report UFOs every hour, and you have your authority figure, whether it's a denial or whatever, talking about it as a legitimate story, then you just cover it.

"You don't evaluate it, in other words. You try to keep yourself out of the bloody story. It's not your job to conclude whether UFOs exist or not. If reporters would simply do more reporting and less pontificating and concluding, we'd probably have better coverage of all of our stories, not just UFOs," he says.

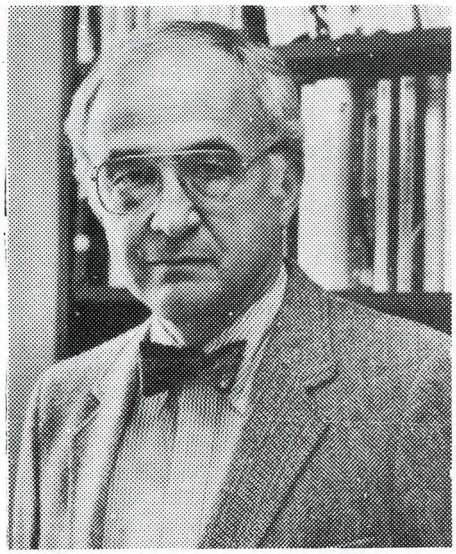
"News analysis has its place—on the editorial page, or as a special column in *addition* to the report. But basically I think news analysis, especially in television journalism, goes off the track. I really don't want the reporters' opinion on whether Jackson is a viable candidate. Just give me the facts and let me make that decision. It's not their job to make conclusions for me."

But it's difficult for reporters doing UFO stories to resist some kind of subtle or overt commentary, he says, because the reporter doesn't want to be laughed at. "They get into the unfortunate situation where they're so afraid of looking stupid that they're extra-cautious, or worse, condescending, or worse, they actually make fun of the story as they're doing it."

Other, more subtle forms of skepticism also have the potential of getting in the way of fairness in UFO reporting, according to Philip Meyer, the *William Rand Kenan, Jr.* professor of journalism at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Meyer is a media consultant known for being something of a skeptic himself, yet he admits that "we could be going through such a cycle of skepticism that if a real UFO landed on the Washington Mall, we might not pay attention to it.

"One of the criteria for news value is supposed to be that if it's unusual it's newsworthy—if a dog bites a man, it's not news, but if a man bites a dog, it is.



Philip Meyer

"But I've noticed in my career as a reporter that if something departs too far from the normal expectations, it's not considered newsworthy because it's too hard to fit into an everyday conceptual framework. It's much easier psychologically to just not attend to it.

"I'm not saying this has happened, but if there were a really convincing contactee story, with multiple eyewitnesses and photographic evidence, I imagine it would be a 'hard sell' [to an editor] because these are skeptical times."

But that would be in the short run only, he says. "In the long run, if it were a true story, there would be

replications of it, and if you got enough replications, that would be very convincing, even to the most skeptical person."

Meyer says that the ultimate test that separates the sound from the unsound is always going to be replicability, something that ufologists admit is the primary barrier in UFO studies.

"Someone on the 'believer' side of these things, who is nonetheless interested in applying scientific standards, once said something that I thought was pretty eloquent: 'We have to figure out a way of asking questions of nature in a way that we won't be fooled by the answers.' "

He says the classic loophole in the way many paranormal researchers work is that their hypotheses "aren't falsifiable. The minute they get negative results they revise the hypothesis to account for it."

The same kind of loophole exists in UFO research, in that "no matter how hard you work to present all the hypotheses and explanations, there's always going to be a window of possibility left," he says. "You simply can't prove a negative. And there's always a hard residue of cases that defy explanation.

"Of course this doesn't mean that there are indeed little green men flying around up there, because in anything that's measured by the human senses, there's always going to be a residue of measurement or perceptual error. But this is the window of refuge for people who choose to believe in paranormal or UFO phenomena."

Meyer has written critically of the press' coverage of paranormal phenomena for the *Columbia Journalism Review,* and feels that many of the press' shortcomings in this area are "market driven."

"The public likes ghost stories, and stories about superhuman powers. Almost everybody has had some experience which could be interpreted as a paranormal experience, which is one reason people are so ready to believe this kind of thing. It's appealing to a human weakness, and there's a market for it."

While he feels that UFO reporting has not been as guilty of this kind of sloppiness as other areas have been lately, "these things definitely go in cycles, and there have been many times when newspapers have been overly naive in their coverage of UFOs," he says.

"The sort of thing I would criticize—and I have actually seen this—is when Venus is full and it's a clear night, you get lots of reports from people who say they've seen a UFO in the western sky shortly after sundown and it followed them around no matter how fast they drove or flew.

"It's obvious to a knowledgeable reader that they were seeing the planet Venus, and yet quite often the reporter doesn't even think to ask anybody who knows about these things to suggest an alternative possibility. And to most readers, it doesn't occur to them to consider that possibility.

"I'm not prepared to document this, but my guess is that newspapers aren't going to the trouble to put much digging into their UFO stories. In other paranormal reporting, at least, I've found journalists to be pretty much ready to accept reports of phenomena at face value."

To be fair, he says there is an exceptionally heavy burden on reporters trying to cover UFO stories, especially when they're working on deadlines, and have limited research resources. "To be really be responsible they've got to include the history of the UFO movement, and a broad spectrum of alternative explanations as to what somebody saw or thought they saw or experienced. And they have to try to make the reader aware of the range of other physical as well as psychological explanations, including all the possible human frailties that make some of us perceive things that aren't there."

Herbert Strentz

"The problem is there *is* no such thing as the 'perfect' UFO witness, which creates a real quandary for reporters in this field," says Herbert Strentz, dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. "Everyone has some flaws or foibles that could be used by a psychiatrist to explain whatever it was that they thought they saw.

"In so much reporting, as in so much of almost any kind of research, you can't necessarily find 'truth.' You just try to reduce the degree to which you can be misled."

Strentz spent 1966 through 1968 researching "A Survey of Press Coverage of Unidentified Flying Objects, 1947-1966," his dissertation for Northwestern University's Ph.D. program in journalism. This body of work stands as the definitive source for quantifying and qualifying how the press spent its formative first 20 years covering this most difficult and strange beat.

He feels many of the findings of that report, in terms of the problems reporters face, hold true today, not the least of which is the problem of finding credible witnesses.

"The science reporters and others I talked to in the '60s said that UFOs were treated as comic relief or 'offbeat' stories, without a whole lot of depth, for a number of reasons, including time restraints, and the fact that there were other areas such as transplants and other new technologies that were being developed that put a higher claim on the newsroom resources. But a large part of it was the whole question of sources."

Or, rather, lack thereof.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force consultant on UFOs with whom Strentz worked in his research, had a favorite line: "Ridicule is not part of the scientific method, and people

should not be told that it is."

"One of the things that troubled Hynek until his death was that the ridicule surrounding UFO reports made it so difficult for so-called 'reputable,' professional people who saw something they didn't understand in the sky to make reports. A high percentage of reports were therefore made anonymously or under conditions of confidentiality, to people like Hynek," Strentz says.

Nevertheless, ample numbers of UFO reports did come in to newspaper offices, and were the basis of hundreds of articles over the years.

How and why these journalists decided to print these stories, was one of the focal points of Strentz' study.

Larger papers tended to show comparative restraint, printing only 20 percent of the UFO stories they received, while the smaller papers printed 56 percent of their incoming reports (See Table 1).

In reading this table, it should be remembered that the median daily newspaper circulation at the time was less than 10,000, meaning that most daily newspapers in the nation were publishing the majority of the UFO reports they received.

"One interpretation of this. . . could be that the UFO reports [in the smaller papers] were treated as local news, not unlike minor traffic accidents or silver anniversaries," wrote Strentz. Other reasons suggested were that the smaller communities knew and therefore trusted individuals' reports of sightings more, or that the smaller papers' editorial wasn't subject to close enough scrutiny to screen out the weaker stories, due to smaller staffs and fewer science reporters.

When asked what went into their editorial decisions, 92 daily newspapers out of a sampling of 100 said their criteria for printing UFO stories were substantial number of trustworthy witnesses, a number of other local reports of different sightings, and official sources that tended to corroborate reports (See Table 2).

Analyzing press clipping collections from this period, however, shows that newspapers did not always follow their stated criteria.

They often printed stories based on sightings with one to five witnesses, and they were usually about single (ostensibly isolated) UFO incidents.

Most disturbing to Strentz, the smaller papers didn't bother to quote official sources at all in about a third of their stories, relying solely on the word of one or more, often anonymous, individuals. (The larger papers were guilty of this about 12 percent of the time).

"The failure to include such basic news sources as the police, weather bureau, astronomers or airport officials made the press vulnerable to the publication of contrived reports and the publication of reports that might have been explainable by those news sources," concluded Strentz. He attributed this situation

TABLE 1

UFO REPORTS RECEIVED AND USED ON BASIS OF CIRCULATION

Circulation	Number of papers	Reports used	Reports not used	Totals
Less than 20,000	50	42	33	75
20,000 - 80,000	30	34	44	78
More than 80,000	12	19	74	93
Totals	92	19	74	246

TABLE 2

REASONS FOR PRINTING, NOT PRINTING REPORTS OF UFOS, BY CIRCULATION SIZE

Reasons for Printing	Below 20,000	Above 20,000	Total
There is a need for a 'bright' or 'freak' short news item	5	2	7
The explanation of the UFO can be provided with the report	8	10	18
There are a number of witnesses to the reported sighting	22	27	49
Competitive news agencies are covering the local reports	2	1	3
There are a number of local reports of different sightings	17	13	30
Official sources (police, weather bureau, Air Force, etc) tend to corroborate the report	12	14	26
Non-official witnesses to the sighting seem trustworthy	21	14	35
There are wire service reports of sightings elsewhere	13	10	23

Charts reprinted from Strentz' 1970 dissertation

to three interrelated factors:

"1) The news coverage was not based upon the possibility that the object seen might have been real, but upon the fact that someone said he had seen a flying saucer. This factor would seem particularly important when, after a few years, UFOs became routine news. A simple verbal report of a UFO sighting was passed from witness to newspaper-reader unexamined by the reporter in between.

"2) The story was written because news accounts of flying saucers were presumed to have a high readership, but were not considered to be stories requiring corroboration from official news sources. The fact of reader interest, created in large part by the press, would be considered sufficient reason to print the story.

"3) The reporter did not contact sources such as the police, weather bureau or airport because he was careless, lazy or incompetent, and his incomplete story was not challenged by other newsmen because of lack of manpower, or because of reasons listed in 1) and 2).

"Regardless of causes, the failure to check reports of UFOs with relevant news sources meant that many UFO news stories were shallow, superficial and redundant accounts of people puzzled by objects in the sky," he wrote.

In a recent interview, he elaborated:

"There has always been a media tendency to focus more on the sideshow elements and the day-to-day excitement than on long-term trends and issues, which readers might not pay attention to anyway. It's like the Adlai Stevenson line about how the press separates the wheat from the chaff and prints the chaff. There's a tendency for journalists to print the loonier reports, the 'little green men' and 'space cadet' elements of the stories."

This was especially true during periods of accelerated UFO coverage, called "flaps," when press standards seemed to reach all-time lows, notably in 1947, 1952, and 1966.

Newspapers during these times tended to print UFO accounts in relation to the trend, rather than on their own merit. Some examples include:

> Lyons and Rice County have not been left out of the invasion of Kansas by Unidentified Flying Objects, judging from the weird lights seen in the sky yesterday evening. *(Lyons, Kansas, "Daily News.")*

> Edmond got well into the saucer watching action over the weekend with several sightings of UFOs being reported here. *(Edmond, Oklahoma, "Sun")*

> Not to be left out, Rock County residents reported UFOs over Laverne Friday night. *(Laverne, Minneapolis, "Star-Herald")*

> With all the recent flying saucer activity, it is a bit depressing to note that there have been no sightings spectacular or otherwise in the Salinas Valley for some time. *(Salinas, California, "Californian")*

it was suggested that during flaps people might feel less threatened by the idea of being ridiculed about their story, because of more sympathetic press coverage during these times and the 'safety of numbers.'

While the report pointed out the possibility that UFO activity had indeed been higher during these times for mysterious reasons of their own, another distinct possibility discussed was that the newspaper coverage itself encouraged people to report UFO experiences.

It was suggested that during flaps people might feel less threatened by the idea of being ridiculed about their story, because of more sympathetic press coverage during these times and the "safety of numbers." They also might be less likely to tell themselves that "it was probably something ordinary that just looked funny," and more likely to think that somebody would do something about their report, or that it would add to the information being recorded.

A simplified version of a UFO flap was profiled as follows:

One or more sightings occurs with a large number of witnesses or other newsworthy circumstance, and a heightened sensitivity to UFO reports in general is aroused. A trend is identified by newspapers, which sometimes then tap into their backlog of reports that would not have been printed otherwise. A report is published stating the percentage of UFOs previously investigated and explained by the Air Force, along with a report that the current wave has produced no tangible evidence that flying saucers are real. There is an Air Force explanation of the major current sighting(s), and those who reported the UFOs reject those explanations. There is, for various reasons, including those mentioned in this paragraph, a lessening of interest in UFOs on the part of virtually all concerned.

Whether over the course of a flap or within individual stories, this "pro/con" equation tended to be the standard.

One aspect of the study assigned number values to content of quotes in the following way:

1. Those comments considered to support, advocate or endorse the interpretation that UFOs or flying saucers are real objects, possibly extraterrestrial, or at least not understandable in terms of present technology or known weaponry.
2. Those comments considered to be both supportive and neutral.
3. Those comments considered to be primarily neutral or narrative in dealing with the UFO phenomenon in general or a report in particular, or including both supportive and hostile comments.
4. Those comments considered to be both neutral and hostile.
5. Those comments considered to be opposed to, critical of, or hostile toward the interpretations offered under (1) or those comments which interpret the UFO phenomenon as resulting from the misinterpretation of known objects, i.e., the UFO reported was Venus, an airplane, a searchlight, a hoax, etc.

Table 3 shows, predictably, that UFO witnesses tended to be "pro" UFO reality, and official sources tended to be "con."

Perhaps because most of the UFO stories printed were local reports filed by reporters on small papers,

UFOs in the News..

Free Press Telephones
To Place Want Ads 222-6800
For Home Delivery 222-6500
City News Desk 222-6600
All Other Calls 222-6400
Insurance Dept. 222-6470

Detroit Free Press
Tuesday, March 22, 1966 THE SECOND FRONT PAGE Page 3, Section A

'It Scares Me A Little'

Sheriff on Trail of 'Flying Saucers'

Frank Mannor

Ron Mannor

BY JIM TRELOAR
Free Press Staff Writer

DEXTER — Washtenaw County Sheriff Douglas J. Harvey went o[illegible] looking for flying saucers Monday night.

"I don't [illegible] if I find one," Harvey admitted. [illegible] trespassing. Tell you the t[illegible] least

Harv[illegible] eight c[illegible] office[illegible] izens [illegible] rep[illegible]

object hover just off the ground, then rocket away at their approach.

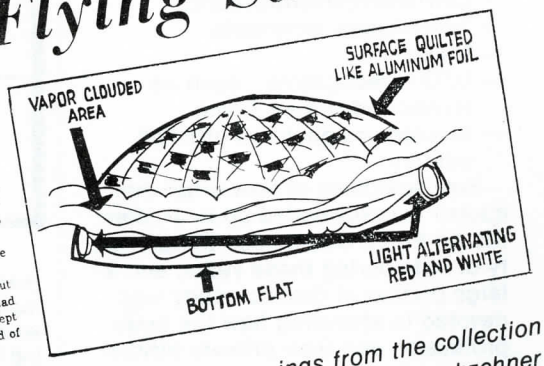
"About 7:30 p.m.," Mannor said, "we saw this thing like a ball of fire, maybe more like a shooting star, come out of the West, then drop below a clump of trees maybe half a mile behind the house.

"Me and Ronnie decided to come down for a look. My wife, Leona, kicked up an awful fuss. Said we might get radioactive. I asked my two sons-in-law to come, but their wives wouldn't let them.

didn't carry no lights or guns. But we know the [illegible]ing there all the time.

[illegible]hat knoll, and there it was, about [illegible] than 500 yards away. It had [illegible] back a light that kept [illegible]rotating. Kind of

WEATHER
Snow likely Wednesday. High in the low 50s; low in the 20s. See Page 74.



Clippings from the collection of Bob Achzehner

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
Vol. 19, No. 43 Phone 321-3000 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1966
1966 by Field Enterprises Inc.
FINAL
92 Pages—10 Cents

THE GREAT UFO HUNT

New Sighting Sends Out Scores With Radios, Binoculars

Special to The Sun-Times

HILLSDALE, Mich.—A county civil defense director, 87 co-eds and their housemother reported Tuesday watching for four hours as a lighted object rose and fell in a swampy hollow here Monday night.

"It would go up a certain distance and stop below a sweeping airport beacon, giving me the feeling it was attempting to avoid the light," said William Van Horn, Hillsdale County civil defense director.

The report from Hillsdale College here followed a series of similar reports in Michigan and Indiana of unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

Call For Hynek

The Air Force dispatched its chief UFO investigator, Northwestern University's Dr. H. Allen Hynek, to look into the rash of sightings.

Hynek was one of many persons in southern Mi[illegible]gan w[illegible] night for [illegible] V[illegible]

DR. H. ALLEN HYNEK

Map on Page 24

on a radio set up in his home.

"When one person sees something, the others are alerted through the communications network," Van Horn said.

The class teacher, William Vincent, said he wants the stu-

Turn to Page 24

A flying saucer mashed the grass in this swamp Ann Arbor, Mich. Or did it? Frank Ma[illegible]

The Paper That Tell Both Sid[illegible]

The Oklahoma Journal
Vol. 1, No. 303 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73110 7430 S.E. 15th Street - Box 5839 Tuesday, August 3, 1965 20 Pages Five Cents

Top O' The Mornin'

REPORTING UNIDENTIFIED flying objects fell into disrepute there for a while, but now everyone and his dog is getting into the act.

One thing we can pretty well rely on, though, in the present instance, there really was something up there.

It wasn't like the woman we heard about who was shocked [illegible] her young son had told

Man Says He Saw 'Flying Saucer'

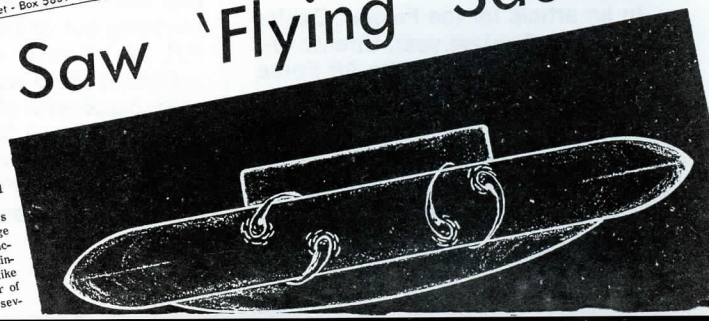
By JIM KROUSE
Copyright 1965 by The Oklahoma Journal Publishing Company

A trained Air Force weather observer using high-powered binoculars and a [illegible]spotting scope, saw [illegible] about 9:30 p.m. Sunday, approaching from the northeast and "arcing" in a direct line to the southwest. He alerted a neighbor (another Tinker Air Force Base employe), who provided the field glasses and telescope.

"The thing was moving [illegible] observed

sibility of letting their imaginations run away, they set up the 40-power telescope and "took a fix" on several planets and stars.

"The planets and stars when magnified would change color and appear to be bouncing a little. But they certainly were not moving—not like that thing. As a matter of [illegible] passed sev-



the most common official sources referred to tended to be local authorities.

In order of number of references, newspapers quoted:

— Aerial personnel—pilots, FAA, radar
— Law enforcement/security
— Technicians, scientists
— Newsmen
— UFO Investigators—such as Hynek and the Air Force
— Elected or appointed officials, military

But regardless of how often their quotes actually ended up in articles, the Air Force was indeed the authority of note during these years, and a large portion of Strentz' study was devoted to analyzing how the news profession and their primary official source interacted.

His findings were very critical of the Air Force's performance, and of the press for allowing themselves to be spoon-fed incomplete answers.

"On the whole I would have to say that for the Air Force the goal was more to *explain* UFOs than to *investigate* them. After the early '50s, the Air Force looked at the UFO issue as a public relations problem, rather than a scientific problem," Strentz said in a recent interview.

In his report, he concluded that "The Air Force UFO inquiry has primarily been faithful to its directive to 'reduce the percentage of unidentifieds to a minimum,' not by meticulous investigation, but through bookkeeping procedures which assured that all dubious explanations would be advanced to 'known' status within a matter of time. The press has uncritically accepted Air Force statistics. . . even though a cursory review of the Air Force UFO program should have raised questions.

"The conclusion here is not that flying saucers exist and the Air Force has hidden the truth about them, but that despite assurances from the press, little confidence can be placed in the Air Force inquiry from 1947 through 1966."

In an article for the Fresno, California *Fresno Bee* last year, Strentz recounted an example of the Air Force going so far as to ignore a direct UFO report over the nation's capital.

During the evening and morning of July 19-20, 1952, anxious air-traffic controllers and airline pilots reported to the Air Force that their instruments and visual sightings indicated unidentified flying objects were buzzing the nation's capital and flying in restricted air space over the White House.

Those civilian professionals received no help from nearby Andrews or Bolling Air Force bases. No airplanes were sent up to identify the reported interlopers. In trying to summarize the confusion of July 19-20, a senior air traffic controller wrote to the Air Force, *"We reached the point where we wondered just how much of this could go on and for how long before something could be done about it. . . I asked if it were possible for something like this to happen, even though we gave them this information, without anything being done about it. The man who was supposed to be in charge, and to whom I had been talking, said he guessed so."*

To top it off, when the then-head of the Air Force UFO inquiry, Capt. Edward Ruppelt, arrived from Dayton, Ohio to investigate, he couldn't get Pentagon approval for military transportation. All the vehicles were reserved for senior colonels and generals. Nor was Ruppelt authorized to rent a car. A secretary ready to end her work day suggested that Ruppelt might conduct his investigation by using the city's bus lines.

He also was advised that he might be considered absent without leave from Dayton's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base if he stuck around D.C. much longer.

So Ruppelt went back to Ohio, saying he wouldn't care "if flying saucers were buzzing Philadelphia Avenue in formation."

Strentz says he found no evidence that the Air Force was covering up anything out of the ordinary in its P.R. job. "I never saw anything that indicated there was a hangar someplace with aliens in it or that aliens had been found. There might have been data on UFO reports that weren't necessarily made public, but those I found were of the same nature as the other stuff—objects that didn't seem to move according to our physical laws."

He says part of the motive for the coverup of UFO data was simply a matter of image.

"You had all these billions of dollars being spent on the Air Force, and you had the prevailing 'Military Industrial Complex' view that a kid in Wakasha, Wisconsin couldn't fly a kite without NORAD knowing about it."

(Conveniently ignored in this conceit, according to Strentz, is the fact that the North American Air Defense Command [NORAD] didn't investigate several hundred unknown objects which were tracked on radar each month—classified as Uncorrelated Targets (UCTs)—because the objects were presumed to be familiar and non-hostile, based on their speed or trajectory.)

"You had the world's mightiest Air Force trying to respond to citizen and Congress complaints, so the Air Force had to come up with something to show that the money was being well spent."

In any case, in 1969 when the Air Force officially got out of the business of explaining UFOs, the media lost its major news source, which Strentz says goes a long way in explaining the lessening of public and media attention UFOs have gotten in years since.

To some extent, he says, this should or could have caused the press to become more responsible. "That might be a study I would like to do, to look at what news sources the press has turned to since," he says.

Certainly, ufologists and skeptics have filled a portion of the media's

TABLE 3

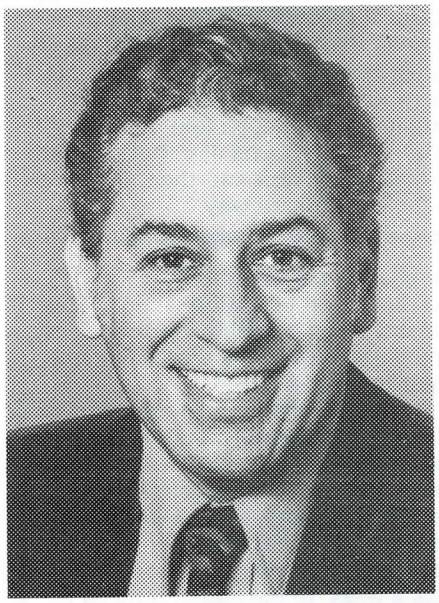
COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO SOURCES AND WITNESSES IN UFO NEWS ITEMS

	Classifications					
	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Sources	23	14	376	86	131	630
Witnesses	364	72	229	30	19	714
Total	387	86	605	116	159	1344

need for "pro/con" journalistic balance.

But, according to at least one self-described skeptic, both have done a pretty lousy, pretty shrill job of presenting their sides.

"Unfortunately, the press is generally dominated by the people who court it in the UFO field, so you tend to get the most sensational reports on both the pro and the con," says Marcello Truzzi, a sociologist at Eastern Michigan University who specializes in the sociology of science, "especially deviant or maverick sciences and their acceptance and rejection in society."



Marcello Truzzi

"We have a tendency to hear the wilder folks with the wacky claims—the ladies with blue hair who claim to come from Venus are more likely to get attention from the press sometimes than someone who simply has a strange anomalous report. And then you hear from people like Phil Klass [the skeptic most often quoted these days by the press], who build up straw men to tear down.

"Usually the first report from either side tends to get all the attention. There's a claim and then a counter-claim or dismissal of some sort from a skeptic like Klass. The problem is

'Swamp Gas' Spurs UFO Study

Herbert Strentz, now dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, spent two and a half years researching "A Survey of Press Coverage of Unidentified Flying Objects, 1947-1966," a study that brought to light many key points of UFO coverage we are considering in this special section.

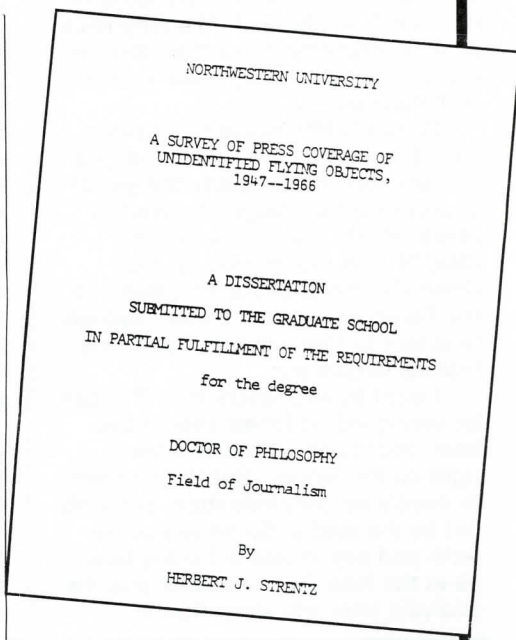
Strentz had been a working journalist for about five and a half years, a reporter for the *Fresno Bee* and an editor and reporter for the *Associated Press* wire service in Albany, New York before he began working toward his Ph.D. in journalism from Northwestern University.

He didn't have any particular interest in UFOs, nor had he ever covered a UFO report during those years.

In fact, he had intended to do his dissertation on the rights of privacy, looking at news coverage of suicide attempts and what effect such attempts had on subjects' eventual recovery, but circumstances intervened that gave him an alternative, classic case study of press analysis right in his own back yard.

"I had a class on critical analysis of the press, for which we were supposed to take some element of very specific news coverage and analyze it," Strentz remembers. "It happened that the class was in the spring of 1966, and that was when the Dexter and Hillsdale, Michigan UFO sightings were reported. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force consultant on UFOs, was a faculty member at Northwestern, and the Chicago and Detroit newspapers were giving considerable coverage to the sightings, so it made it a convenient topic for my class," he says.

In the wake of the Dexter and Hillsdale sightings, subsequently known as "the swamp gas" sightings because of Hynek's controversial explanation of them,



NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

A SURVEY OF PRESS COVERAGE OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS, 1947--1966

A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS

for the degree

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Field of Journalism

By

HERBERT J. STRENTZ

Congress created the Department of Defense UFO Project with its headquarters in Boulder, Colorado.

Strentz decided that if he could make connections with that study project, he would do his dissertation on the subject. He joined the staff as a research associate in the summer of '67, and published his findings in 1970.

The reading library at Northwestern University's journalism school has told Strentz that his is one of the most popular dissertations at the school, which he says "may be damning with faint praise, but I guess the kids like to read it."

His current academic interests are first amendment and freedom of information issues.

Copies of the dissertation are available through Arcturus Book Service, 4431 Village Square Lane, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083. (Which also happens to be one of the most exhaustive sources of UFO books in the country.) The University of Michigan, according to Strentz, also makes copies of this and other academic dissertations available from microfilm. **—S.S.**

UFOs in the

the press doesn't usually follow up after that. There are two rounds and that's it."

Truzzi complains that the skeptics often "misfire, issuing press releases and making discrediting statements that aren't really valid. The emphasis is on discrediting more than disproving, so the evidentiary base is usually misguided.

"Certainly Phil Klass has been called to task for his quick and glib explanations of too many things. Of course now he's largely backed by press reports that come out of CSICOP [the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal], so a certain authority is lent to these glib explanations that he throws out.

"I want to emphasize that Phil can be very good, at times; there have been occasions where he's been right on the money. But the problem is there's no discrimination, certainly not by the media. So he will come forth and say 'it was a fishing boat,' as in the New Zealand case, and the analysis later will show that it couldn't have been a fishing boat that was producing the light. By that time, the story is dead as far as the general public is concerned. I think it's just shooting from the hip, and being overly anxious to dismiss. I think his concern is less with solving the problem than it is in making a case against it.

"There's no problem in a situation like this when you have advocates both for and against, if you have some kind of a system of justice that sees that things are weighed. But of course our judge and jury is the mass public audience, and so often what should be dialogues turn into debates, and it's more a question of scoring points, often rhetorical points, than evidentiary points or real argument points."

Glib or not, he says that skeptics like Klass have certainly got the cards stacked in their favor, "in many ways properly.

"Most of the time they're going to be right, because most of the time anomalies do not bear the burden of proof that is demanded of them. Science is by its very character conservative, in that it demands that extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof.

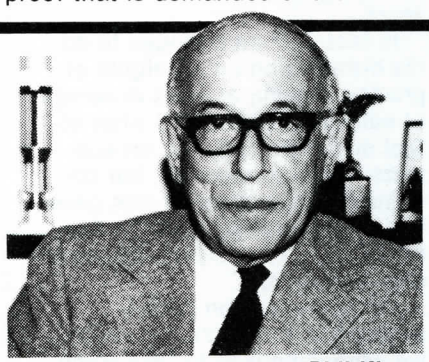
"The world is full of things that go bump in the night. All one has to do is open one's eyes to the mounds of fortean and others kinds of data out there to realize that science is still very much an incomplete picture of what things may be like. But unless things are, in fact, out there in some reliable, validated way. . . not much

Skeptic's side

Phil Klass is the reigning "arch skeptic" the press turns to when it wants to quote a doubter on a UFO story. As an electrical engineer and a contributing editor (formerly a senior editor) with ***Aviation Week*** *magazine, he has credentials that make him the kind of authority figure journalists seek out. We read Klass the criticisms Marcello Truzzi had about some of the aspects of his approach.*

Klass denied that he seeks the press' attention, saying that he can't recall ever calling a reporter or editor to offer his response to a pro-UFO article they had published, and saying that CSICOP has only issued two press releases in his name in its 12 years of existence.

"That surely doesn't sound like I or CSICOP is courting the press," he said. "The reason I am most often quoted is probably that I've been working in the field for 22 years, and I've published four books on the subject. I wish there were more skeptics who had the time to devote to the subject, and I often rue the day that



Phil Klass

I got involved because of the great demands on my time. But it's not that I seek the press out, it's that they traditionally call me."

As to his emphasizing "discrediting more than disproving," Klass said that his responsibility is to try to find a prosaic, earthly explanation for UFO sightings. "If you investigate a case, you should not come back and say there is no earthly explanation—it therefore must be an extraterrestrial visitation. You ought to, you must, you should come up with a prosaic alternative. This is all I attempt to do," Klass says.

"But if one landed on the White House lawn tomorrow, I could not bury my head in the sand and say to ***Aviation Week***, despite the fact that you saw it on television. . . don't run the article on it, it's nonsense. I could not, would not, and would not want to do that."

Klass also denies that he has ever given glib answers to the press. "Most recently with the Gulf Breeze case, I told several reporters that I had not had time to go down and investigate, but that based on what I had read in the news I suspected it was a hoax. In the Japan Airlines incident, I got calls before I had a chance to investigate it, and I told the journalist I didn't want to comment, to call back in a week and hopefully I would have some insight by then."

In the New Zealand case, Klass denied that analysis later showed his explanation to be wrong, and added that at the time he came out with that explanation he had spent four or five years investigating the case, corresponding a debate within the ufological community consisting of 2,000 pages of analysis.

"For him to suggest that I shoot from the hip. . . shows that the one who shoots from the hip, in my opinion, is Marcello Truzzi." **—S.S.**

can be said about them. It doesn't mean that they're not there, but it does mean that they don't have a place in science yet."

Yet Truzzi is in disagreement with the current skeptical view that the metaphysical/New Age trend is dangerous to society's scientific standards or to rational thought as a whole.

"What we're seeing in this is a breakdown of the conventional traditional religious order—people are shopping for religious ideas. There are certainly people in the scientific community who are developing a broader picture of science along with this, who are moving away from 'scientism' to a more open-minded picture of science, as less infallible, less complete. There are mystical strains in physics and elsewhere, which have probably always been there to some degree. They're just probably getting a little more attention now.

"But I disagree with Paul Kurtz' [the chairman of CSICOP] position that this is some kind of regression toward a medieval, irrational, superstitious period. Quite the contrary. . . what we're seeing is a secularization of the sacred, where people now feel they have to justify the old metaphysical ideas with some kind of semantic scientific rhetoric, rather than in terms of revelations or some of the traditional bases of authority. It's now guised in scientific language, and that alone proves the victory of science. They're trying to play science on its own terms, which of course they're not succeeding at very well. But it's only a question of time before people realize that a lot of this magic doesn't work. On the other hand, some parts of this may work, and science to that degree should be open to consideration."

Truzzi is the founder of the Center for Scientific Anomalies Research, and publishes its journal, called *Zetetic Scholar,* exploring these issues and creating a dialogue between proponents and critics of these kinds of ideas. "I'm trying to bring together people who are pledged to a scientific set of ground rules, because I believe that science is a method, rather than an established body of knowledge."

One of the functions of the center, he says, is to help reporters by referring them to people who are experts in these topics.

"There are a lot of self-styled experts in these fields, so you want to find people with some institutional backing, or some track record, both pro and con. Sometimes there are more than two perspectives, such as in ufology—there are people who are anti-abduction research, and others who are for it, and some people who maybe don't believe in UFOs, but still think the abduction work is psychologically interesting and deserves attention. So it's not a simple matter of pro or con, but of finding the best arguments for all sides."

The ufologists Truzzi says he can relate to the most are those who emphasize the "U" in UFO. "This is a lesson the parapsychologists have by and large learned—that they can't go around demanding that everyone believe in ESP. They recognize that ESP is an hypothesis, just as the ETH [extraterrestrial hypothesis] and various other explanations that have been offered for UFOs are. In fact, the idea that something really unusual is happening there at all is itself an hypothesis. It could be misreports and frauds and error and things like that.

"It's ridiculous to talk about UFOs in an inflated way, as though they're going to cause some great revolution in our thinking, because they may not. UFOs may ultimately be explained by something very unexpected, such as an optical phenomenon, that turns out to be quite boring to most people looking for little extraterrestrials."

"So one has to recognize that what one is ultimately talking about here is the 'UFO experience' people seem to be having. It's true that it drains it of an awful lot of excitement and sensationalism—you're no longer standing head to toe with the science fiction people—but ultimately science will benefit from it.

"The fact is that there is a residue of unexplained cases. Even the Condon Report concluded that. I don't go so far as to say they're unexplainable forever, but they're unexplained now. The skeptics and some of the believers on the other side are simply unwilling to live with or tolerate a lack of closure on these matters; they want to reach their conclusions right away. It seems to me good science has to be willing to live with loose ends."

Perhaps part of the the reason both skeptics and believers tend to shy away from such subtleties is to get a better hearing from the press, he says.

"Instead of emphasizing the puzzle of the phenomenon, which by and large doesn't interest that many people, there's a tendency for the press to look for and stress some sort of answer. Whether the answer is positive or critical, the press tends to go with *explanations* rather than just the idea that there's something that's scientifically worth looking at."

Given this priority, its deadlines and limited research resources, maybe it's asking too much of the general press to try to uncover anything new in this field.

"One of the things that gets to be discouraging is that you begin to realize every story is just more of the same. There is nothing new or different, it's just more stories about people seeing something in the sky that they don't understand," concludes Strentz.

Perhaps the inherent frustration of chasing after a never-ending mystery is something beyond the patience level or schedule demands of general reporters.

When asked how he thought UFO coverage might better be handled, Strentz said he thought the future might lie with small publishers who have more focus than the press at large.

"With the trend going now toward special interest magazines, and that kind of information-gathering, I think this may be an answer. Probably the better reporting is going to come in special interest magazines, that may from time to time come to the attention of reporters on larger newspapers and they will provide the background, the references and the material for them."

But no matter who's doing the reporting, or how conscientious or dedicated they are, the ultimate problem they'll always face is that "it's very difficult to explain what we don't know in terms of what we do, because what we do know may be wrong, and leading us in the wrong direction," he says.

"Yet for now it's the only compass we've got. . ."

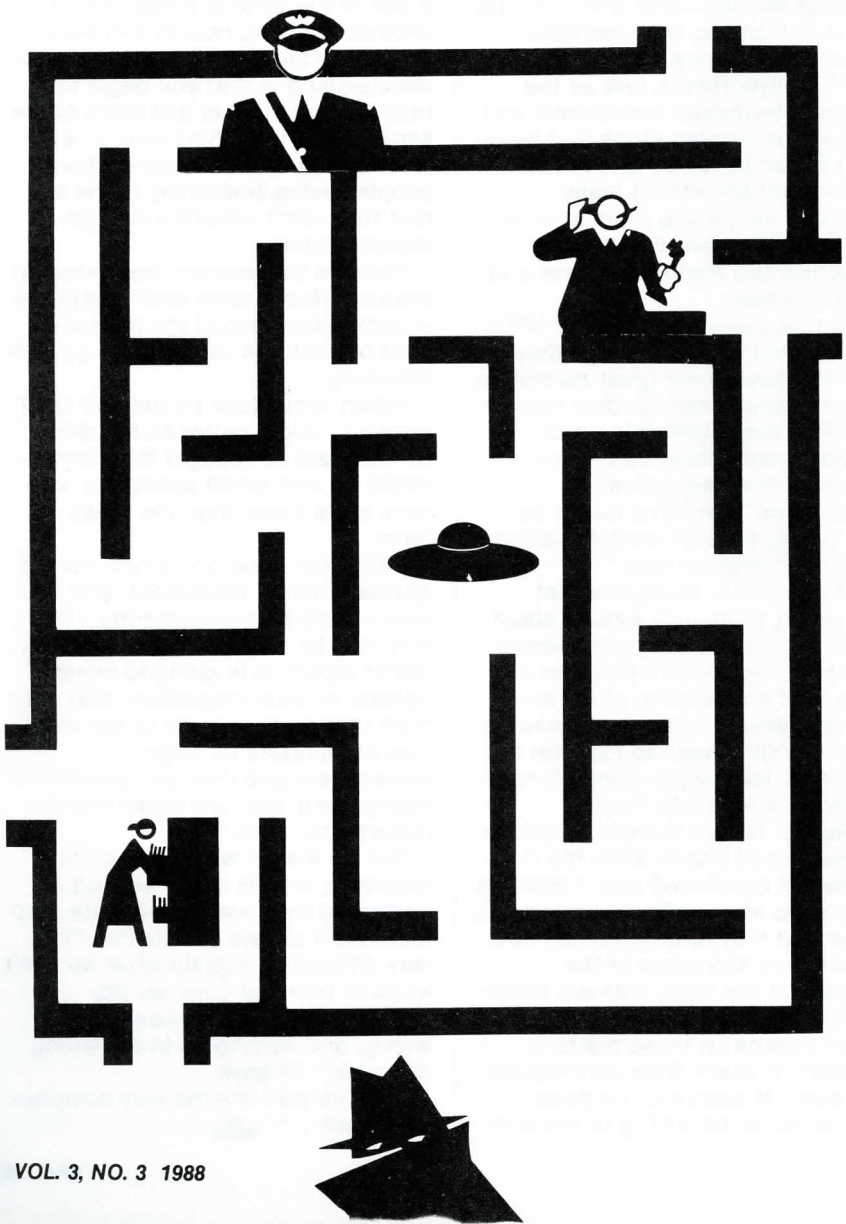
Stalking The 'Ultimate Secret'

Ufologists Encounter 'Intelligence' Maze

By Vicki Cooper

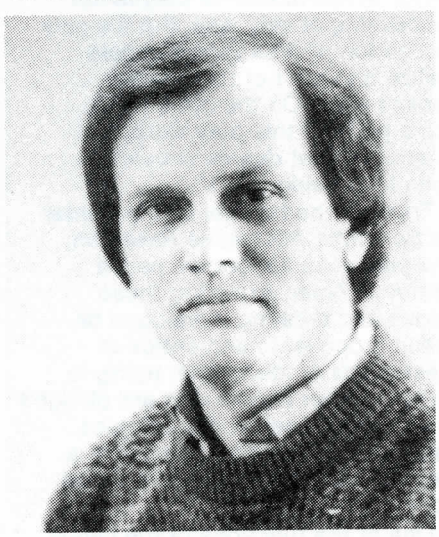
The Ultimate Secret. The Great Truth. The Final Reality. Whatever you call it, the golden chalice of ufology—and indeed of all UFO reporting—must be an information gem so fundamental and astonishing, that certain investigators willingly suffer a maze of countless indignities and frustrations in their quest to nab it. Certainly that's the overall implication of the UFO research hype which ultimately reaches the media.

To many activists on the front, the real allure of the UFO beat concerns an apparent wealth of *secret* information. "I haven't told all that I know," comments Jerome Clark, journalist of the paranormal and editor of both ***Fate*** Magazine and the well-respected journal ***International UFO Reporter***. In reference to the most headlining UFO news in the form of MJ-12, Clark adds, "Some of the stuff is so sensitive that it could get blown if it were even hinted at."



Seen in a another light, it's said that the sundry covert forces keeping much UFO information contained—*a la* the "Cosmic Watergate"—have spawned an obvious red herring the size of a whale. But no matter how much an atmosphere of confusion and secrecy might prevail, it's not stopping the phenomenal rise of public interest in UFO info—and a consequent media upsurge not seen since flying saucers first made their grand entrance into American life in the late '40s.

"This upsurge is very different," comments Don Berliner, a Washington, D.C.-based aeronautics writer and ufologist since the glory days of NICAP, National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, which no longer exists. While an official at NICAP, Berliner was able to gauge the public's fluctuating attention to UFO material.



Jerome Clark

UFOs in the News..

"Now [public interest] isn't tied in with a flood of sightings; that's never happened before. I remember the 1952 flap—that was propelled by sightings and more sightings. The same in '57 and the '60s.

"Flurries of interest were *always* tied to sightings—not like what's going on now. I'm not a sociologist—I can't explain it, but it obviously needs to be dealt with."

In the absence of an official UFO authority—those who might serve that purpose are either dead or not talking—the public mind has been infused with rumor and theory, mostly stuff that ranges from the bizarre to the inane and keeps Big Science and Media at bay.

Until more evidence surfaces, perhaps it's academic—but just how should "the story of the Millenium" be properly addressed?

After all—what if . . .

—the heads of the Trilateral Commission are working hand-in-hand with Visitors from Zeta Reticuli to control the world?

—Flying saucers are actually insidious biologial weapons carefully instilling the AIDS virus into key segments of the world population?

—Extremely well-equipped neo-Nazis are masquerading as benevolent Pleiadians and dimming critical faculties with New Age pablum?

Or what if we find out we're living in someone else's biological test tube? How to tell the story, indeed. While the rest of the world laughs, rarely even comprehending the basic vocabulary of UFOdom, paranoid elements sow terrible rumors that some have been threatened and even murdered after venturing too close to that Ultimate Secret. Wisely or foolishly, mainstream media generally give wide berth to this kind of unsubstantiated talk, and true to journalistic ethics, try to keep things both readable and respectfully balanced.

"What we try to do is just sort of *not* take a stand," says Pamela Weintraub, the editor at ***OMNI*** Magazine responsible for their capsule UFO Update. "We let writers who work for us present their case—but I make sure the critics are included, too."

Don Berliner

Trouble is, says Stan Friedman, cover-up expert and kingpin of the UFO lecture circuit, "The arguments may be totally imbalanced. Editors seem to think that both sides should be given equal weight, with the skeptics only making charges and doing no relevant research. Just because five percent of the American people don't believe we've been on the moon doesn't mean that their opinion should be weighed equally with those of the astronauts who have been! These arguments are not equal—they do not deserve equal attention."

Forces of secrecy that compartmentalize projects and parcel out information on the exclusionary "need to know" basis further compound the problem. Media don't cover UFOs effectively because they can't. The topic has never been freely and fully out there for journalistic inspection. Another prominent ufologist—jaded, to say the least—says offhandedly, "By the things advocated in our free society, of course reporters are encouraged to seek out information. But there are people who sit on this [UFO] information—and well, it's controlled through them. A reporter or anyone else seeking to expose anything is *not* going to get what he's looking for. He's first going to be 'headed off' as far as possible, and if that doesn't work, they'll feed him some cover story that will satisfy him."

As pointed out in the previous article, media will often swallow and deliver the convenient surface facts on any given news story. If furnished reasonable information purveyed as fact, reporters will tend to buy it as is, failing to adequately challenge their sources. "(The reporters) just collect quotes," Clark comments. He also points out that top-notch investigative journalists regularly refuse even to look into UFOs, possibly because they're concerned about tarnishing their reputations as "serious" newspeople. In other words, through its own abdication coupled with a governmental stranglehold, the Fourth Estate may not be quite as free as we all assume.

Not all mainstream journalists work in blissful ignorance of the secrecy constraints imposed on the entire issue of UFO visitation. Berliner recalls his recent conversation with a ***Washington Post*** columnist, who had shown some interest in the subject. "I asked him why the press didn't handle it better, didn't give it more space," Berliner says. "He said that once you give serious consideration to UFOs being something more than what the government claims, they'll have to be something extremely unusual, whether they're alien spacecraft or not. [This writer] thinks maybe it's just too *big* a story."

Enter 'Intelligence'

So big, perhaps, that everyone's unsure just how to handle it—a natural place for the intelligence community to step in. The ubiquitous "they" who allegedly sit on UFO info appear to be high-level members of an intelligence matrix, "spooks" as they sometimes have been called, MJ-12 or PI-40 if you adapt to the prevailing ufological hype.

Is the Ultimate Secret simply that we cannot defend ourselves against powerful alien invaders? Like the military, are operatives in the intelligence community forced to accommodate and strategize in a situation completely out of their control? Is intelligence, like other governmental powerbrokers, simply "spooked" by UFOs? Several longtime ufologists assume so.

But there are alternative scenarios. When a UFO investigator wants to do some deep-sea fishing, she or he has to set sail on alphabet soup: CIA, ADC, FBI, NSA, NRO, DIA, AFOSI, NSC, etc. UFOs are riddled with spooks, some will insist. Whatever, the romance between ufology and

UFOs in the News..

America's covert intelligentsia is neither new nor inexplicable.

Back to the Future

It began a long time ago—or at least 40-plus years ago. After pilot Kenneth Arnold had his legendary sighting of nine superspeedy UFOs in 1947, more than 120 newspapers glommed onto his story in just a few days. An anonymous reporter's clever words launched an era, and the glistening flying saucer winged its way into the hearts of the American public.

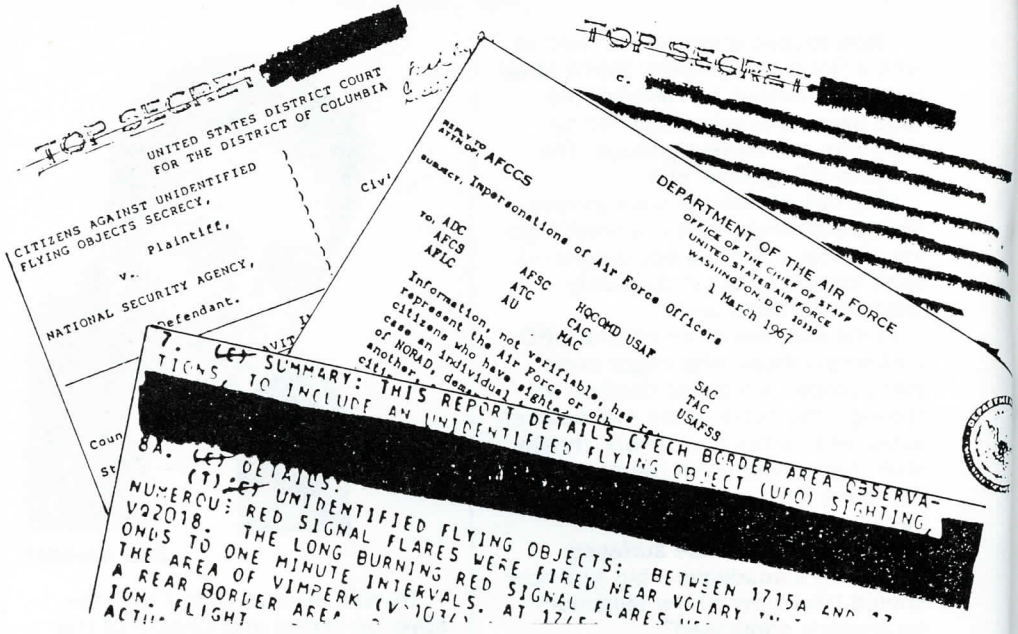
The American military weren't quite as enchanted. A shaky post-war mentality, hardening into cold war blues, gave rise to the strongly-held military suspicion that the saucers were a Russian secret weapon. This idea heightened in 1952, when astounding UFO overflights took place in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. The mysterious flying saucer seemed to keep pace with a growing intelligence establishment, whose tentacles extended outward in response to America's nationalistic need for parity with the Soviet threat, if not superiority.

Were the flying saucers Russia's new ace-in-the-hole? They continued to behave in a manner far beyond any known defense technology, and Americans demanded more information.

After a few false starts, the Air Technical Intelligence Center of the Air Force started Project Blue Book to deal with the UFO, an unprecedented domestic problem whose dimensions continued to widen as more and more reports kept flooding in. (It's generally held amongst UFO professionals that Blue Book amounted to little more than an Air Force PR effort).

Where the Arnold sighting was innocuous, the Mantell incident of 1948 tinged the fledgling UFO era with shades of black. Thomas Mantell, an experienced Air Force pilot, flew his F-51 beyond oxygen limits while chasing a UFO. He crashed and died. The Air Force subsequently explained that Mantell hadn't been chasing a flying saucer; what he actually saw was the planet Venus. Yet witnesses at the flight tower tracking Mantell remember him reporting a metallic craft, "tremendous in size."

The Mantell case is a classic, and the Venus explanation apparently


TOP SECRET
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CITIZENS AGAINST UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS SECRECY,
Plaintiff,
v.
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY,
Defendant.
TOP SECRET
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON D.C. 20330
1 March 1967
SUBJECT: AFCCS
Summary, Impersonations of Air Force Officers
TO: ADC AFCS AFLC AFSC ATC AU HQCOMD USAF CAC MAC SAC TAC USAFSS
Information, not verifiable, has
represent the Air Force or
citizens who have sighted
case an individual
of NORAD,
another,
citizen
SUMMARY: THIS REPORT DETAILS CZECH BORDER AREA OBSERVATIONS, TO INCLUDE AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT (UFO) SIGHTING.
8A. DETAILS:
(1) UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS: BETWEEN 1715A AND
NUMEROUS RED SIGNAL FLARES WERE FIRED NEAR VOLARY
V92018. THE LONG BURNING RED SIGNAL FLARES
ONDS TO ONE MINUTE INTERVALS. AT
THE AREA OF VIMPERK
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***DELETE IN D.C.**—Just a few of the documents received by various groups and individuals in pursuit of the paper evidence of UFO cover-up.*

part of a debunking tradition. It's only one instance among many that the Air Force rushed to explain away as quickly as possible—and despite the feeble explanation, the press obediently reported as the public appetite demanded. The event can also be considered a classic example of what appears to be the military's regular habit of denial and deception undertaken to sidestep the UFO problem.

The Robertson Panel

Initially, it seems government officials felt UFOs were no threat to national security. Subsequent to the "flap" of 1952, however, which jacked up citizens and military alike, the CIA took things seriously enough to convene a panel of top scientists to evaluate the UFO situation. After just four days, these experts ended up recommending active debunkery to downgrade the importance of UFOs in the public mind and to strip the issue of its "special status." The Robertson Panel—so named after panel member H.P. Robertson—also suggested that civilian UFO groups be kept under surveillance. The Robertson Report stated, "It was believed such organizations should be watched because of their potentially great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur. The apparent irresponsibility and the possible use of such groups for subversive purposes should be kept in mind."

The Robertson Panel convened in 1953. A CIA memo dated Aug. 1, 1952, released in the late '70s after a successful lawsuit, recommends agency surveillance of flying saucers and that "no indication of CIA interest or concern reach the press or public . . ."

The more formal policy of secrecy and mass debunkery began at the hands of the CIA—and has affected press coverage and public perception ever since. (At least tactically, the domestic threat of Soviet infiltration remains an enduring influence on our national security apparatus, hence the Agency's view of appropriate methods of counterespionage.)

The Freedom of Information Act has provided at least one avenue for citizens to free up documentation that verifies some of the UFO concern and activities of government/intelligence, but few journalists have taken advantage of this tactic specifically in pursuit of UFO information.

The search for valid documentation consumes many serious UFO researchers, however, who utilize FOIA relentlessly in putting the pieces together. "You really have to look at the entire history of the phenomenon—for instance the infiltration

of NICAP by CIA operatives," says Larry Fawcett, a founding member of the watch-dog group, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy. "We've found documents from the National Security Agency about one of their agents attending UFO conferences and turning back information to the NSA."

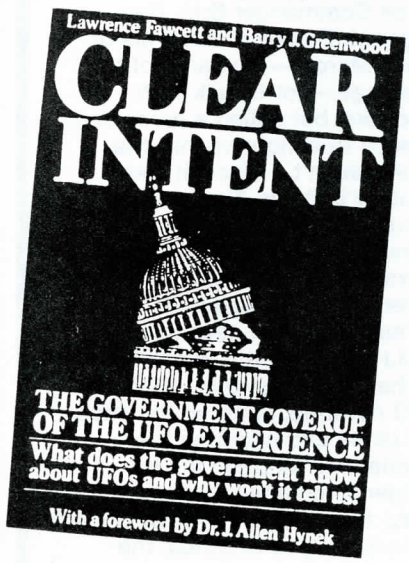
In their efforts to provoke large-scale government accountability and the release of the UFO facts, CAUS claims to have obtained close to 15,000 documents—"from virtually every intelligence agency you can think of in the United States structure," says Fawcett, who with co-researcher Barry Greenwood authored the seminal UFO cover-up book, ***Clear Intent***. "(The documents) show that most of the intelligence agencies and virtually every branch of the military has been involved in UFOs in one way or another—and that involvement still goes on today."

The Clandestine Clique

Fawcett, who with other CAUS members has had first-hand experience with the cloak-and-dagger side of ufology, warns that rampant spookdom increases the risk of fraudulent documents and other worthless information being deliberately fed to the UFO community (possibly another reason for media shyness in this realm.) Nevertheless, other UFO researchers have downplayed the FOIA option to take the riskier (and perhaps quicker) approach of working closely with their own sources in the intelligence community, in an attempt to verify what's considered important "leaked" documentation.

Television producer Jaime Shandera has spent the last 20 years doing news, documentaries and other commercial productions, including an NBC network news feed in San Diego when the captured spy ship *Pueblo* was returned in 1968. Covering this part of a huge intelligence disaster was Shandera's first on-the-spot experience with the complex, shadowy world of espionage. More than a decade after that he met researcher William Moore, who later came to him in 1982 with government UFO documents in hand. Moore explained his association with an anonymous intelligence source and the opportunities for further enlightenment about the Big Secret and the government's involvement in it.

Larry Fawcett


Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood
CLEAR INTENT
THE GOVERNMENT COVERUP OF THE UFO EXPERIENCE
What does the government know about UFOs and why won't it tell us?
With a foreword by Dr. J. Allen Hynek

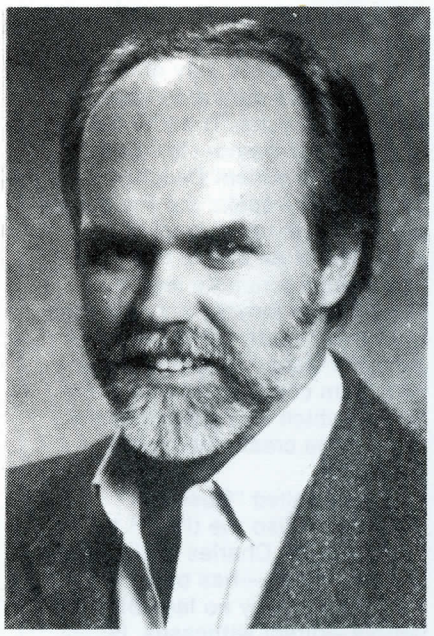
"That's when I said I was in—win, lose or draw," Shandera recalls. "I told Bill that 'what I see here is a situation analogous to Watergate. But . . . to make it worthwhile, if this [agent] is providing valid information, then we in essence have to become a Woodward and Berstein in the process. We have to become involved in getting the real story."

Though not a ufologist himself, Shandera became a more public figure in the intelligence-ufological "loop" which controls the public dissemination of supposed UFO reality, when in 1984 he received the MJ-12 documents, photographed on 35 mm film.

Probably representing the most bold current interface between what can be separated as the intelligence and UFO communities, the MJ-12 story, if verified, will reveal a history of long-term government involvement in UFO investigation and related implications that defy description. "If there was a high-level project [of UFO investigation by the government] then there is, by definition a cover-up," Clark comments (See accompanying story).

As Woodward and Berstein amply demonstrated in their legendary dealings with Deep Throat, a major departure from the conventional channels of information carries with it some risk along with the opportunity of great reward. The risk is being endlessly strung along and fed baldfaced mis- or disinformation, not to mention being viewed as playing into the cover-up by association. "You must realize that disinformation is not a lie made out of thin air," Shandera allows, "it's misdirection about the truth. If you accept that premise . . . the only way you're going to define it is to interface with the people who are telling the stories, and be able to verify it, piece by piece."

Shandera claims the agents he and Moore know will not admit to leaking the MJ-12 documents, though "they are aware of it," he says. "Part of the game is to find the rules and make sound judgments as you move through [the process]," he says cryp-



Jaime Shandera

UFOs in the News

MJ-12 Climax? Stand By!

UFO media and aggravated ufologists stand by, waiting for more hardcore evidence to be released in the furious MJ-12 controversy.

The papers—"leaked" to Shandera in 1984 and held back until more supportive data could be pinned down, the researchers say—document the creation of an ultra-covert body of 12 officials from science and government, whose major *raison d'etre* was (and is, it appears) investigating and handling the UFO situation.

Noted linguistics expert Roger W. Wescott has already offered professional validation of one document, while even once-skeptical UFO specialists are excitedly hinting that high-level confirmation of MJ-12 extrapolations is quietly flowing out of Capitol Hill. As Jerry Clark notes, speaking for the Center for UFO Studies in Illinois,"We're watching events with interest as they develop on several different, entirely independent fronts."

Before the next shoe drops, a bit of backgrounding may be in order. The MJ-12 documents themselves introduce the supposed first incident where the government was forced into dealing with the UFO problem, after a flying saucer crashed in July of 1947.

Documents were also leaked to British researcher Timothy Good. One briefing memo—for then-incoming President Dwight Eisenhower—spells out the secret operation set up to recover the wreckage of an object that had "crashed in a remote region of New Mexico located approximately 75 miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base." A special scientific team confiscated four alien bodies which had ejected at the time of the crash, the memo discloses.

The so-called "Roswell Incident"—also the title of the 1980 book by Charles Berlitz and William Moore—has been substantiated by no less than 92 people—direct witnesses, family and friends of the witnesses and persons providing valuable background information. These people were interviewed by Moore and Friedman in an eight-year investigation into the case.

Of those witnesses, several supplied testimony about the Air Force's quick backtracking after having first let out information about the crash. On July 8, 1947, Roswell Field Public Information Officer Lt. Walter Haut issued a press release; the media reported it and the crash was a public sensation.

But not for long. Eighth Air Force Commander Brig. Gen. Roger M. Ramey ordered Major Jesse Marcel—in charge of the wreckage—not to talk with reporters, but called a press conference to announce that the debris wasn't a disc—it was a weather balloon. (Some of the documented witnesses in the Roswell case recall having seen news articles on the UFO crash, coverage which was later retracted in local newspapers.)

MJ-12 places the Roswell crash at the root of the U.S.' alleged UFO cover-up, bringing the case full circle and updating the clandestine strategy the intelligence community seems to be using to slowly uncover UFO truth.

According to skeptics, the possibility that the entire MJ-12 scene is an elaborate hoax should not be minimized. The trail to the Ultimate Secret is littered with the psychological debris left by those who have been expertly diverted, distracted and deceived in an artful counterstrategy apparently designed to keep the entire UFO community fragmented and off balance. But the question of motivation for a hoax as carefully-drawn as this one hasn't been satisfactorily answered.

UFO discussed the controversy with one of the more educated insiders. "MJ-12 will not go away," he murmured, careful not to say much more . "It's absolutely central to everything . . ." —***V.C.***

tically. "I look at this as I would any other production . . . When you approach any kind of production, you have to learn to interface with the people you're dealing with . . . to learn to walk in their shoes, to see through their eyes."

According to Fawcett and other critics of MJ-12, the stories told by intelligence may well be spurious, and consequently the MJ-12 documentation is likely a hoax. "Part of my feeling as a police officer [with Coventry Police Department in Connecticut], looking at all the evidence and how it was presented . . . is that the government threw out bogus documents in an attempt to 'get' the UFO community. The documents were leaked through [an agent] who was told, 'get these to the UFO community and pass them off as real.' Once UFO investigators get hold of spectacular documents like that, they appear in the press almost immediately with the [implied] message, 'these are authentic' . . . then the government would show that these documents were bogus and we'd all be knocked out of the picture."

On the support side, researchers such as Clark question why intelligence, vindictive ufologists or anyone else would go to such lengths with a fabrication. "If it's a hoax, it's an extraordinarily sophisticated one," he asserts. ". . . If it's a disinformation scheme, the motives are truly inscrutable . . . the only obvious [motive] is that they're trying to communicate some kind of false information to the Soviets. That doesn't make sense, because if the Soviet Union came to believe that the U.S. had access to an advanced extraterrestrial technology, the level of international paranoia would skyrocket . . . it would have an extremely destabilizing effect on international relations."

For their part, pro-MJ-12 researchers maintain that final verification of the documents will have to be a slow, painstaking process. The intelligence community is highly compartmentalized, Shandera explains, with a certain amount of deception and disinformation built in as safeguards to protect not only the people who may be providing clues to the Ultimate Secret, but the truth itself. He admits, "We're not always confident of all of the information that comes forward," alluding to in-

stances where false leads were handed to them in what he feels was a form of testing. "The sources have never acted in a manner consistent with a hoax. They've always acted in a manner consistent with a story to be borne out—a strong, valid story."

As Los Angeles area residents, Moore and Shandera at least provided the necessary local angle for broadcast news reporter David Garcia, who created a week-long UFO news series that recently ran on KNBC-TV. He says the MJ-12 material "lends credence to the claim there's been a cover-up of the subject since day one." In separating various reports and opinions, he relied on the journalistic code. "Media should just cover [UFOs] as a newsstory. The only thing a reporter should do is let everybody make their case, and let the audience decide."

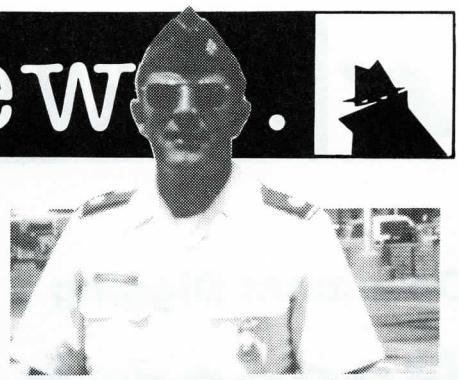
If the UFO audience finds an overall vacuum of information and little evidence of the UFO Truth, perhaps it is because Garcia's attitude is the exception rather than the rule. Journalists' approach to the UFO subject is conditioned by official secrecy, disinformation, a history of ridicule and many other factors that may simply render reporters unwilling to go after stories in the first place.

Award-winning media critic David Shaw says, "There's a book by Herbert Ganz called "Deciding What's News. In it, he deals with the press' inability to come to terms with the unbelieveable—things like the My Lai massacre and Watergate. There are things beyond most people's experience, that are simply not covered."

Both My Lai and Watergate eventually did receive massive press coverage, which took some painstaking, persistent detective work on the part of journalists—particularly with Watergate. Does the Ultimate UFO Secret warrant similar efforts? Says Clark, "At Center for UFO Studies we're always carefully monitoring things and doing what we can."

The decision that UFOs *are* news depends largely on public reception. It's no secret that Garcia's UFO series aired closely with May ratings sweeps and the debut of the network's new science fiction miniseries, *Something's Out There.* "I don't know why they asked me to do the story," Garcia says. ". . . (but) I'm not in the habit of turning down assignments."

Adventures At Kirtland



Lt. Col. Ernest Edwards

Since the days of Project Blue Book, what's the Air Force been up to? Besides illegitimately claiming that they're no longer in the UFO business (this division of the military has been endlessly implicated in the cover-up), certain Air Force officials will at least discuss UFO data, displaying more than casual interest.

Kirtland Air Force base in New Mexico is one military installation where bizarre, inconclusive and yet fascinating UFO info floats lazily around its hot desert setting, in and around the more typical military endeavors.

Kirtland's Lt. Col. Ernest Edwards, of the base's elegant-sounding Advanced Technologies and Concepts Division, talked to ***UFO*** on a recent visit. When it comes to things about flying saucers that have national security implications, "you just aren't gonna crack that egg," Lt. Col. Edwards said.

We believe him. Of course, the UFO intrusions at Kirtland in 1980 and 1983 are just the tip of the iceberg, when you're looking at a base with such intimate involvement in the kinds of ultra-tech defense research taking place at nearby Los Alamos and on-site Sandia Laboratories. Rampant rumors of underground bases at Kirtland add more tempting bait; in fact, if you're to believe some wags in ufology, New Mexico is practically *riddled* with underground alien bases.

So *someone* has to play the middle-agent between intelligence secrecy and the UFO community. That role apparently falls to one Richard Doty, whose name can cause hackles to rise throughout a beleaguered "inner" circle of UFO investigation.

Doty is reportedly the former agent of Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) who's been pointedly named as a key intelligence source behind segmented leakage of pivotal UFO documentation—the celebrated MJ-12 document among them—and one of main perpetrators of God knows what other intelligence shenanigans are necessary to preserve hallowed National Security and at the same time have fun.

Agent Doty has mostly succeeded in keeping things adequately confused. Players on the public ufological side loudly disagree on this Doty person and his real role. According to Larry Fawcett of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, Agt. Doty could very well be the principal in a rather shoddily-conceived government "sting" operation, designed primarily to make UFO faces red. According to William Moore, the Doty at Kirtland is simply not the right Doty at all. There are *two* Dotys! Other researchers laugh and say that's nonsense—a patch-up attempt 'cause Doty's cover has been blown. Then according to The Man Doty himself, he's never even had a casual interest in UFOs, and just couldn't care less . . .

Somebody's lying.

Lt. Col. Edwards really couldn't clarify things, as officially impressive as he looked and sounded. But he *did* agree that UFOs and the UFO community would be useful as tools for counterespionage.

While hanging out at the Atomic Museum on the base, where gargantuan missiles and other aging phallic symbols and a neat, selective history of atomic energy are prominently displayed, ***UFO*** rang up Doty and asked two questions:

Would UFOs and the UFO community in general be useful as tools of counterespionage?

Doty hesitated for half a second. "Yes," he said.

Are you or have you ever been employed with the National Security Agency?

Doty: "I can't comment on that."

* * *

This Doty is an interesting fellow. The *real* question is whether or not ***UFO*** will bother to try and talk to him again and find out more.

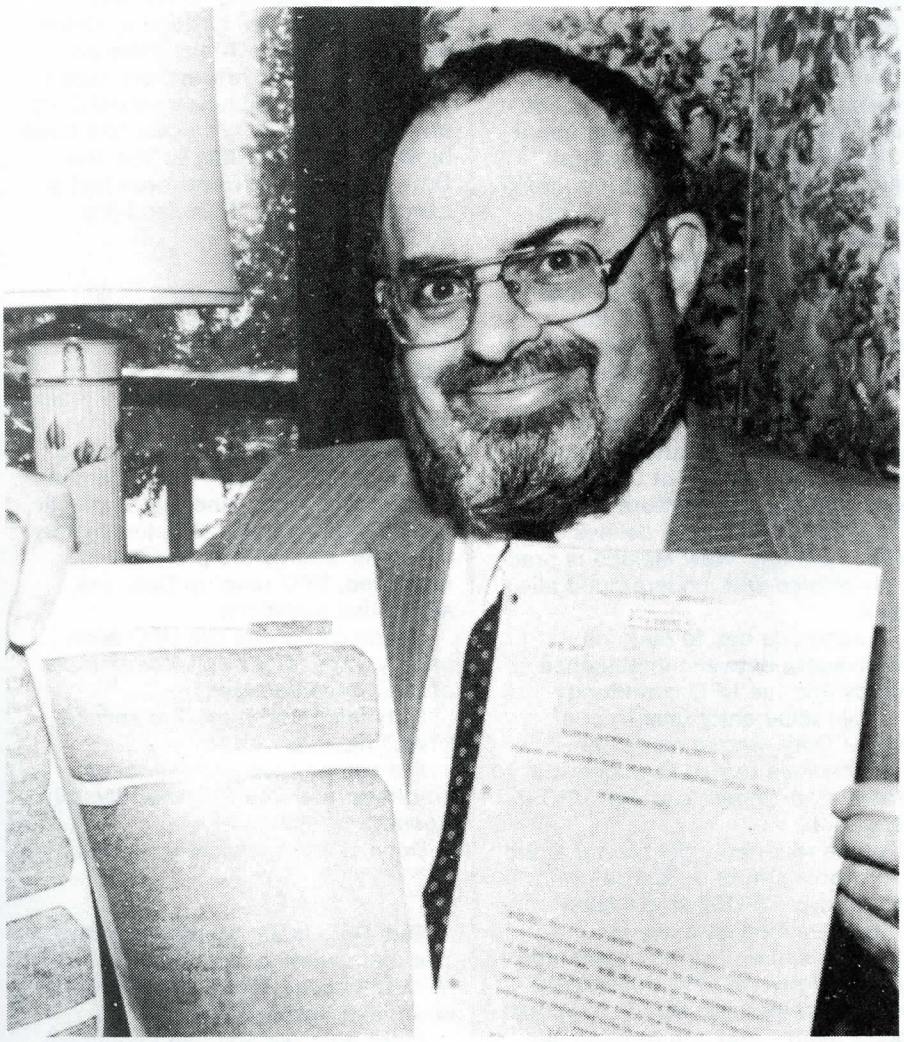
Right now, we just can't comment on that. ***—V.C.***

Document Digging

Research Challenge to Media

By Stanton T. Friedman

Stan Friedman, of the high-visibility trio of MJ-12 researchers, manages a wide-ranging career as nuclear physicist and renowned UFO lecturer. His focus has also been pacing disclosure of alleged government documents at the source of much detailed debate. Here, he traces a remarkable intelligence paper trail indicative of just how far covert masterminds have gone in their proprietary strategy with UFO data.



In the course of presenting my lecture "Flying Saucers ARE Real!" to about 600 college and professional groups in all 50 states and eight Canadian provinces, I have had a wonderful opportunity to get feedback from many people across this continent, most of whom have been ready, willing and able to accept the notion that *some* UFOs are alien spacecraft.

I have also had the opportunity to get a close-up view of the media, having been the subject of numerous articles over the course of my lecture tours and UFO research for the last 20 years.

It is my view that many media professionals are not at all well-acquainted with the UFO phenomena. I personally have had a very good response from reporters; the coverage has usually been fair and the tone has almost always met with my approval. But the accuracy from those same media is something else again.

If I were a professor, typically I would rate most coverage in the C to D range. I suspect it's rare that articles on other subjects are done by people who know as little about their subject as those on UFOs. The majority seem to think there is nothing to UFOs other than what can be read in the tabloids. Few have read any of the major scientific studies on UFOs, such as ***Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14*** or NICAP's ***The UFO Evidence***, among others. And rarely do they offer historical perspective, or show willingness to do the homework necessary to begin to understand this subject.

Perhaps most integral to my interests, virtually none have any understanding of government involvement, or even how government security works.

Granted, it is not an easy area to

gain access to and it takes a lot of patience and perseverance to get anywhere at all.

I am hereby offering a challenge to the media to consider some of the research I and others have done over the years as a starting point to what could be a monumental story.

I am particularly concerned with the whole idea of the "Cosmic Watergate." Having spent almost 15 years working on a wide variety of classified, government-sponsored, advanced research and development programs for five different companies, I have had the unique opportunity to examine the whole question of national security. One of these programs was an intelligence effort evaluating space nuclear technology capabilities of certain foreign nations. This led to my considerable interest in various intelligence agencies, especially those that might have a role in dealing with UFOs.

I ask a number of my audiences not only how many have seen a UFO—for which the response is typically 10 percent—but how many reported what they have seen—perhaps only 5 percent of the 10 percent. I also ask how many have heard of the NSA and the CIA. A great majority of people have heard of the CIA; few have heard of the NSA. The **N**ational **S**ecurity **A**gency has kept a very low profile, at least before the American public. One can be certain that the Soviet Union and other foreign nations are well aware of its existence.

It's an inside joke that NSA means **N**ever **S**ays **A**nything or **N**o **S**uch **A**gency. The NSA's primary role is supposed to be monitoring foreign military communications using all possible techniques, from spy satellites to huge antennae, spy ships, spy planes, etc. The hope is that the NSA will be able to pick up not only useful intelligence about who is doing what, where and when, but also any precursors to an attack launched on the U.S.

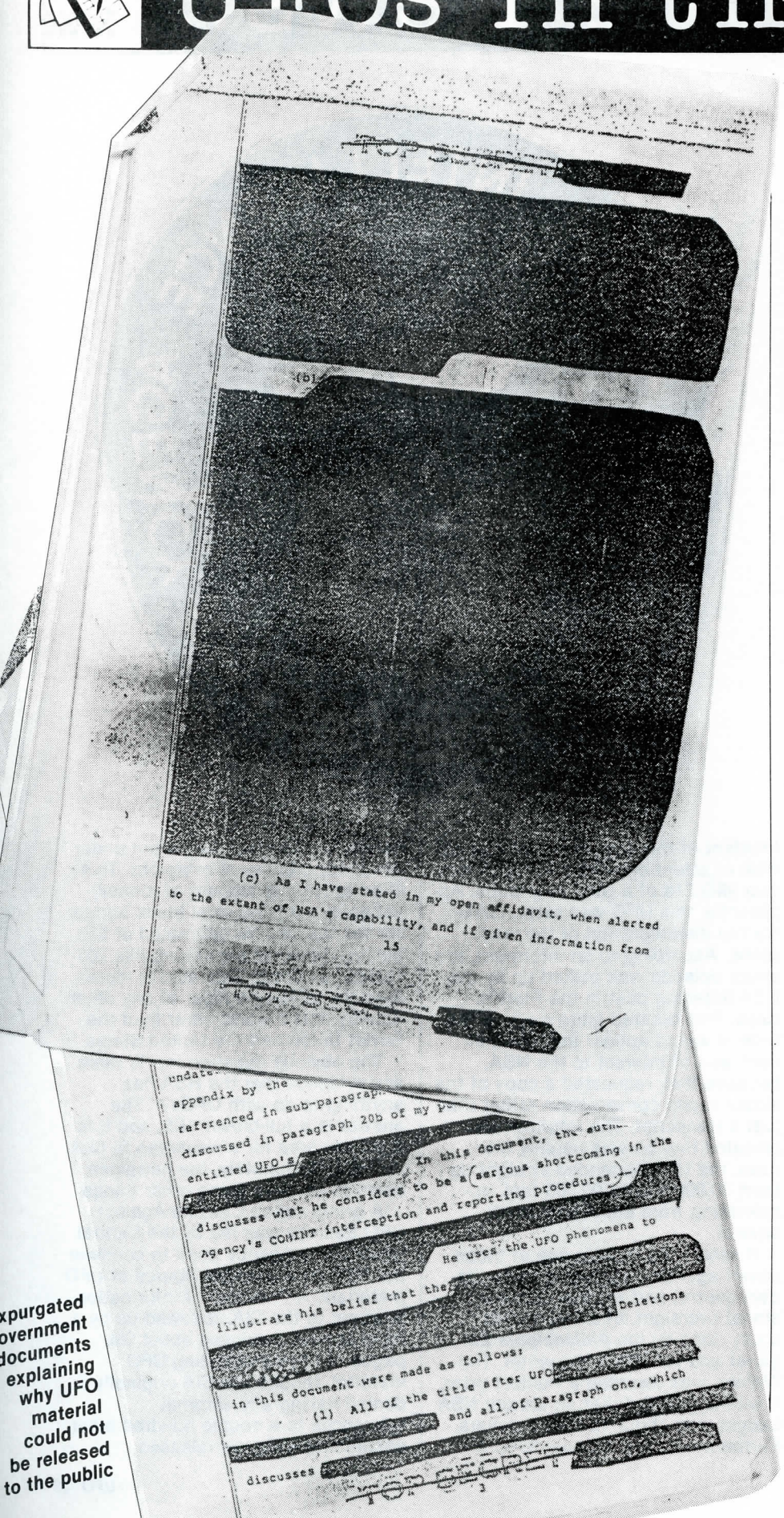
Clearly the agency is in a position to monitor communications between military aircraft and the Air Defense Commands of various countries. One activity of such military aircraft could be to chase unidentified flying objects penetrating the airspace of that country.

A number of years ago, a specific incident of this kind received a good deal of attention—the interception by two MIG 21s of a UFO over Cuba. Apparently, this UFO was responsible for the disintegration of the lead plane. According to an informant, the entire episode was picked up by the NSA listening post in the Florida Keys. This created quite a stir at the time. It would appear that the incident was of interest to the NSA, because they requested a copy of the actual taped conversation rather than just a transcript. The information revealed that as was usually the case, the UFO ascended straight up from 30,000 feet to 90,000 feet, accelerating from Mach 1 to Mach several.

It seems the NSA is one of those covert agencies operating under its own control and without congressional oversight. In a very recent study done by the ***Philadelphia Enquirer*** and for which the writer, Tim Weiner, was awarded a Pulitzer prize, it was suggested that an annual NSA budget was about 10 billion dollars. Furthermore, this is considered a "black" budget, i.e., funds not under direct congressional oversight. This is an enormous amount of money, yet apparently the total black budget for the U.S. is now estimated at $35 billion—to cover something like 200 "black" projects. This sum is more than the military budget of any other country in the world other than the Soviet Union and the United States.

The obvious question is, "Is there any evidence that the NSA has anything to do with UFOs?" The answer is a full-blown YES, and it is a perfect area for a newsman to pick up on. Unfortunately, the newsmen seem to be busy doing other things.

A group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy was led by the Central Intelligence Agency itself to consider the NSA as a possible source of UFO materials. A Freedom of Information Request to the CIA, followed up by a legal appeal, produced about 900 pages of not-very-exciting UFO material, though the CIA originally denied having any. Internal references to a couple hundred other documents were *not* released;


(c) As I have stated in my open affidavit, when alerted to the extent of NSA's capability, and if given information from

15

undate
appendix by the
referenced in sub-paragraph
discussed in paragraph 20b of my
entitled UFO's.
In this document, the auth
discusses what he considers to be a (serious shortcoming in the Agency's COMINT interception and reporting procedures.)
He uses the UFO phenomena to illustrate his belief that the
Deletions
in this document were made as follows:
(1) All of the title after UFO
and all of paragraph one, which discusses
TOP SECRET

Expurgated government documents explaining why UFO material could not be released to the public

this—along with the CIA's long-time history of doling things out very slowly in hopes that anyone giving them a hard time will get discouraged and go away—make it clear that they have deliberately withheld material.

Attorney John Marks, involved in extracting information about the mind control work of the CIA, obtained information in a manner which I consider a significant precedent. He told me personally that his first release from the CIA generated only about 400 pages. Subsequently, he received a number of several-hundred page releases, then mussed and fussed, made a lot of noise and eventually received 40,000 pages! In each instance, he was told that was all there was—there wasn't any more.

In any event, with their release of 900 pages of UFO documents the CIA also issued a list of 57 additional UFO-related documents that had originated with other agencies. It appears that every intelligence agency was involved and mentioned on this list.

The one of particular interest was the National Security Agency. CIA listed 18 UFO documents in their possession, said to have originated with the NSA. Naturally, CAUS filed a FOI request for those 18 documents. The NSA totally refused to release anything, on the grounds that national security would be compromised and that their sources and methods could not, by law, be released. The usual legal games were played and an appeal was made. They denied, and the case went to court. The judge requested that the NSA do a search for UFO materials.

They returned to court and admitted finding not 18, about which we had known, but rather 239—79 of which originated with a variety of other agencies. They adamantly refused to release their own 160 UFO documents. An appeal was made, which was denied. The Court requested that the NSA, which kept insisting that national security prevented them from releasing the 160 UFO documents, present them before the judge so that he could determine if, in fact, national security was be properly invoked in the case. The NSA also refused this request.

But at this point the NSA prepared a 21-page TOP SECRET affidavit for the judge, justifying withholding the

UFO Debunker, CIA Hired Hand

Mystery Man of MJ-12

It's now well known that the NSA has a UFO connection, which developed post-World War II alongside associations made by key members of the original MJ-12. Some of these associations, which I've been able to track in the course of my research, have proven to be ironic, to say the least.

In 1985, after finding out that Dr. Donald Menzel's name was on a list of supposed members of a group called "Operation Majestic 12," which purportedly had been established to deal with a crashed saucer and four alien bodies recovered at Roswell, New Mexico in July of 1947, I decided to pursue the matter of Menzel's possible involvement.

Initially I had a great deal of trouble even admitting Dr. Menzel's possible role. He was a Harvard University professor of astrophysics and, I assumed, was a total skeptic about UFOs. Dr. Menzel had written three anti-UFO books, the first in 1953, the year following the Operation Majestic-12 briefing document apparently prepared for President-elect Dwight Eisenhower and dated Nov. 18, 1952.

This book, ***Flying Saucers***, succeeded in keeping a whole generation of scientists both in the U.S. and Russia from taking even a casual look into the UFO phenomenon, much less taking it seriously; he continually adjusted facts to match his poorly-reasoned explanations. Nevertheless, Dr. Menzel had participated in Congressional hearings on UFOs in 1968, and in a meeting session on UFOs sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1969. His final book, ***The UFO Enigma***, co-authored with science fiction writer Earnest Taves, continued to focus on *identified* flying objects and misrepresented the facts in several cases.

Dr. Donald Menzel

'Dr. Menzel would have been aware... of the need to "condition" or prepare the public to deal with an idea of such an impact as extraterrestrial visitation.'

In my detailed quest for more information on this mysterious fellow, I ran across correspondence between him and then-President Jack Kennedy. In several different places, Menzel commented that he had had a longer continuous association with the NSA—and its predecessor agency, a Navy group with which he had been active during World War II—than any other American. He also told Kennedy he had a TOP SECRET ULTRA security clearance, at the same time the USAF was trying to withdraw his much lower Secret clearance because of McCarthyist allegations of being a Communist sympathizer.

In essence, Dr. Menzel led two lives. His public one, as a famous astronomy professor, had him serving on international expeditions, establishing solar observatories, and, not the least, debunking UFOs. His second covert life involved working for federal intelligence agencies, with a primary focus on the National Security Agency, the CIA and consultation for more than 30 industrial companies actively researching and developing the advanced intelligence techniques developed during World War II. If we are to believe the MJ-12 document, these newly-born technical skills and studies concerning radio wave propagation and cryptanalysis—code-breaking—also included an intense study of interstellar alien craft.

To extend this assumption further, Dr. Menzel would have been aware of the need to protect the technology associated with saucers, and for the need to "condition" or prepare the public to deal with an idea of such an impact as extraterrestrial visitation. Keeping professional astronomers and other scientists away from the UFO question would probably have been considered desirable, since too much prying would have revealed the secret existence of a project such as Operation Majestic 12.

It is certainly true that I have not been able to provide a smoking gun about Donald Howard Menzel's involvement in Operation Majestic 12. What I have been able to do, I believe, is demonstrate that he could very well have been part of such a high-level group. He was certainly best suited to provide disinformation to the general public. He had the right knowledge and security clearances.

Menzel biographies give no hint of his NSA, CIA and military connections. Discretion, patriotism and his possible contribution to the MJ-12 epic may have been the most distinguishing features of his career. ***—S.F.***

160 UFO documents. The judge was so impressed that he made the following comment in his three-page decision in favor of the NSA's duty to withhold the 160 UFO documents:

The ***in camera*** *affidavit presents factual considerations which aided the court in determining that the public interest in disclosure is far outweighed by the sensitive nature of the material and the obvious effect on national security the release may well entail.*

The case was appealed at the Federal Court of Appeals, where a three-judge tribunal heard oral and written testimony. The tribunal also saw the same affidavit, and instead of taking its usual two months to reach a decision, in five days it agreed with the lower court. The Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

'Anyone who states that there is no UFO cover-up by the U.S. government has to add, "well of course not counting the 160 UFO documents the NSA admits having but withholds from public view . . ." '

A Freedom of Information Act request was made for the 21-page affidavit, which was eventually obtained. The only problem is that the document is almost completely (more than 70 percent) expurgated. I can guarantee a laugh at every lecture I give, when towards the end I tell this story and start opening pages of the document. Within three pages, almost all the material is blacked out, with nothing under the blacking to allow revelation by scraping away the surface. Anyone who states that there is no UFO cover-up by the U.S. government has to add, "well, of course, not counting those 160 UFO documents the NSA admits having but is withholding from public view, and whose detailed reasons for withholding are *also* not available, since the 21-page TOP SECRET affidavit is mostly expurgated . . ."

Of the 79 documents noted as having originated with other agencies, 23 were alleged to have originated with the CIA. I filed a request for those 23 documents. Thirty-five months later, the CIA notified me that they could release the first nine. It turns out these nine documents were press abstracts of Eastern European newspaper articles about UFOs! (These presumably have been in the hands of the Soviets for a very long time.) The CIA refused to release 14 documents admitted as its own; I have appealed that decision. I would expect that by 1992, I will be turned down on that appeal. Freedom of Information is *not* a magic key, contrary to many people's assumptions.

Of course, these are *not* by any means the only official U.S. government classified UFO documents that are being withheld, but they do illustrate that there is indeed a cover-up fully involving the American intelligence community and their mandate to protect national security.

Yet it appears many people are confused about how security works, and don't understand about "black" programs. Many Americans also tend to think that large-scale secrets can't be kept. Obviously those keeping secrets take full advantage of these totally unenlightened viewpoints. When people ask me how the government could possibly hide bodies and wreckage of a flying saucer, I remind them that we have tens of thousands of nuclear warheads around; we have loads of biological weapons; we have loads of chemical weapons. Is the public allowed to visit the locations where these are being stored? Of course not. Further, I point out that there are tens of thousands of square miles—especially in the western and southwestern parts of the U.S.—of government-owned land which completely prohibit public entry, and over which civilians cannot even fly without immediate interdiction on the part of military organizations.

Take a look at a map of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Huge areas are totally off-limits to the public. To hide something the size of a saucer and a few bodies would be child's play at any one of numerous military bases, nuclear weapons storage areas, laser weapons storage areas, underground facilities to be used in the case of a nuclear war, etc. There is no problem at all withholding large volumes of material, physical or biological.

People also object, "With millions of people having security clearances, surely some of these people would have talked," implying that a security clearance is all that's required to gain access to all material classified at that level. This is simply not how things work. A key feature of our security system is the "need-to-know" concept; that is, sufficiently high clearance does not necessarily gain one access to classified material, *unless* one has an approved need-to-know for that material.

Not everyone on a given project has access to all the classified material associated with it. The intelligence concept of compartmentalization is a procedural rule-of-thumb that was strongly supported by Dr. Vannevar Bush, who was apparently a key figure on the government's classified work on UFOs and who was listed as a member of MJ-12. Bush had under him all the major technology development projects during World War II, including not only the atom bomb, but also radar, proximity fuse and other projects. He insisted that people know only what they needed to know to do their jobs, depite their great curiosity as scientists. They were never allowed access to anything other than that.

Compartmentalization and its accompanying secrecy are still the policy today. An important aspect is that one does not normally reference highly classified documents in lightly classified ones, so it is not uncommon for officials to put out two final reports, one much more classified than the other and not referenced in the lower-classification document.

It is also made quite clear when one gets a clearance that THOU SHALT NOT RELEASE INFORMATION—EVER. The penalties for breaking the rules are very stringent, and can include death, life imprisonment, huge fines and complete loss of benefits—which can be devastating to a retired military person, for example. The papers a person signs when leaving a particular facility or project, or upon leaving government service or a company no longer having its government contract, cover *all* the information that person has learned. That

cover lasts forever. The restrictions on dissemination of data do not end with the end of the job.

Comments have been made to the effect that surely some people would have talked if there were a crashed saucer, especially if we have alien bodies. As a matter of fact, there have been rumors along those lines for many years. But can you imagine a sensible, thoughtful technician or scientist—or anyone else—willingly "going public" about a classified project such as the dissection of an alien body without having any backup material to support the claim?

Classified material is very carefully controlled, and is usually kept in locked storage facilities within guarded and sequestered areas. The material is regularly inventoried. Penalties for trying to smuggle out documents or other material are quite severe. Yes, a few spies have managed to successfully remove classified material, because no matter how efficient, all security methods depend on people. And people are fallible.

Other security safeguards are used—preparing documents on special paper that can't be xeroxed, for example. This is a relatively new problem, but the fact there's been only one Daniel Ellsberg who released loads of documents (the Pentagon Papers, etc.) well indicates that most people with security clearance are, in the first place, fully intending to be loyal to their country. In the second place, they're totally unwilling to risk the heavy penalties that go with unauthorized release of classified information.

The highly classified, inaccessible status of UFO information of course presents a problem for the media, but another problem stands out with their coverage of flying saucers. This is the problem of arrogance, and it applies to the scientific community as well. It is difficult for certain journalists and scientists to believe that something as important as alien visits to planet Earth could occur without their knowledge.

The enormous pride these professionals take in their knowledge of important events can turn megalomaniacal in some cases. In response to my suggestion that he do a story on UFOs, one newsman I encountered got very upset and stated, quite seriously, "If aliens were visiting earth, they would have called a press conference and I would have been invited." A number of scientists take exactly the same arrogant attitude; "if it were going on, I'd know about it." It's easier to deny an event than admit ignorance.

I have checked with a number of "old timers" of World War II vintage—either intelligence agency or military types—as to their beliefs regarding the feasibility of maintaining secrecy. Without exception, they all agreed that secrets could be maintained and that there were "black" programs about which we would never learn. I contend that any major newspaper spending the same amount of effort that went into blowing the lid off the political Watergate, or the Iran-Contra Affair or even the "black programs" expose in the ***Philadelphia Enquirer*** could blow the lid off the Cosmic Watergate, if they were to depend on someone like myself so that they weren't starting from scratch.

The problem with UFO investigation is frankly financial. Frequently my phone bill has been as high as $1,000 per month. Such expenditures go along with competent investigative efforts, but I cannot support such efforts on my own. Yet with sufficient funding to pay a reasonable salary and to cover reasonable travel and telephone expenses, one who's not starting from ignorance can obtain an amazing amount of information.

I hereby challenge all media to do what needs to be done to get the truth on the most important story of the millenium—visits to earth by alien beings and the suppression of that fact and its implications by the governments of the United States, Canada and undoubtedly most other countries.

It violates the spirit of our democratic system that American citizens have not had a voice in evaluating our society's interaction with aliens. It's time to change that.

Nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman lectures widely on the UFO subject in the U.S. and Canada and has spent hundreds of hours at various archives researching UFO materials. He has appeared on hundreds of radio and television shows and is a scientific consultant in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada.

FOIA Way

Freedom of Information (FOIA) legislation is by no means a magic key to information. Enacted in 1966, the Freedom of Information Act ostensibly opens the records of federal agencies to public inspection, yet specifically excludes the records of Congress, the courts and state governments.

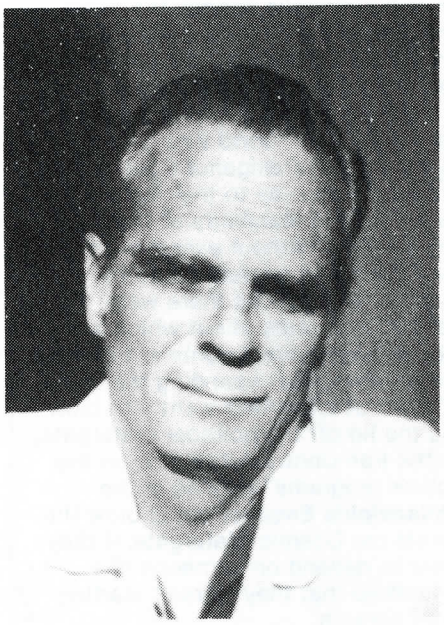
Nine other exemptions preclude access to some of the more crucial records and documentation that could be figurative in knowing the truth of our government's UFO-related activity. At the top of the FOIA exemption heap is national security information, followed closely by internal agency rules, certain interagency communications, law enforcement investigatory records, personnel, medical and additional files containing private information, records of financial institutions and confidential business information, plus other records protected by other laws.

Those desiring to use this legal avenue must send a written request to the Freedom of Information Office of the agency having the records sought. The words "Freedom of Information Act Request" should be at the top of the letter and on the envelope. The letter itself should state simply that in accordance with FOIA, the writer is requesting copies of certain documents.

More detailed instructions are available from a government handbook available for $4.50. Write to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Ask for Stock No. 052-071-00540-4.

CONTACTEE: FIRSTHAND

One type of 'contact' experience frames the planet's history of war as concealing a different, psychological kind of militarism. Veteran Eldon Kerfoot speaks for soldiers, living and dead, who feel they've been drafted into an exclusive PSI-deployed battalion, fighting on the invisible plane for freedoms, and for the final dissolution of boundaries between Man and Spirit. Kerfoot's assignment brought with it an encounter with what might have been a UFO; all he knows is that the "incarnation" on him and others overshadows the Machiavellian imperatives that would have us win at any cost.



Eldon Kerfoot

"There isn't anything in my memory to indicate that I've ever had a UFO abduction experience, but there are experiences in my past that relate to an 'abduction' of a very different kind.

"I didn't understand what the interview with Whitley Strieber was all about (***UFO***, Vo1. 3, No. 1), so when I saw a copy of his book at the local discount store, I bought it. And read it. After finishing ***Communion***, I started thinking about my own experiences, re-living them and analyzing them. Every time I thought I had everything figured out, my mind would go on to another experience and start re-living it.

"I couldn't stop; it was like some form of forced psychoanalysis. I'm going to tell you about these experiences that sent me reeling, because one, it might help to write about it, and two, it might help you to know what kinds of 'mind games' are being played—and maybe give you an open-minded workout.

"The main experience starts as I am strolling by myself across an old battlefield in South Korea, taking a break from a Signal Corps field problem. This was in early January, 1961. I look ahead and see a 'transparent' disk-shaped thing, about 30-40 feet in diameter, coming towards me. It doesn't look like it's really there; it looks like a spinning, three-dimensional 'overlay transparency.' It stops with my head at its center, and I sense that it is some kind of whirling 'psychic energy.' What happened then can best be described as a 'revelation' in the biblical sense of the word—knowledge, insights and visions passing through my mind. Questions thought, answers received.

The 'intelligence' started out by identifying itself as the souls of Americans who had died in the Korean War. Then they said I was about to learn how in the past, going back through ancient history, small, disciplined military forces had been able to defeat the larger armies of oppressive governments and kingdoms.

"But first, through visions and thoughts, they wanted to explain the purpose of their visit. What they wanted to tell me was that, because of a large military movement from China to the south, the United States would soon become involved in a long war in south Asia that would cause 15-20 years of agony in the United States. Out of this would grow a political conflict between pro- and anti-war factions that would pose a serious threat to free speech, freedom of the press and the entire existence of the republic.

"In their view, the republic and its freedoms had to survive—at any cost. And they were there—appearing to me in this bizarre way in 1961—to induct me into a 'last resort' paramilitary force that would be capable of rescuing the republic and its freedoms from the clutches of tyranny—tyranny that would be created out of a desperate effort to win a difficult war.

"I told them that I wouldn't be much use to them because I was a 'born coward.' That I would probably run away when it came to serious combat. They replied that this was not a problem, because they had a 'super-weapon' that would give me confidence and ability. They called it 'incarnation'—the replicating of selected military experiences from the souls of men who had died in war, infused onto the memories of the living.

"In order to carry the 'weight' of this added mental burden, I would suffer only half the 'agony' that American civilians would feel in the course of a long, agonizing conflict. I would feel *some* agony, they indicated, because I simply wasn't the moral equal of real combat veterans, who would feel no agony. And if caught, accusations of insanity would have no effect on me. I would be able to maintain my self control.

"I was explicitly told there would be a 'judgement day,' and that any deliberate misuse of the incarnation state would be punishable. Because of this, my fear of whatever was causing the revelation was and is absolute. I was also told that I would be prohibited from ever joining an organized religion.

"I would not be alone, they informed me, because others would be inducted. It would only be a fraction of the personnel then stationed in Korea. I recall some thoughts about 'better to go with your boots on than wait for a knock on the door in the middle of the night.' And then they left.

"I was still 'me,' but I was a different person. I had a sense of newly acquired military savvy, but was feeling sick to my stomach because I also had this new awareness that the true heroes are the ones who make the sacrifices. Like there's something heroic about someone who does a dull but critical job, and does it conscientiously, but there is nothing

necessarily heroic about a guy who returns from battle with all his parts intact.

"There was also a change in my mental astuteness. Before, I had trouble reading ***Time*** magazine. Now, I was spending my evenings in the 'hut' reading Tolstoy and DeMaupassant. When I entered the Army, my I.Q. was about 123; after I left it was around 145. You don't undergo this kind of jump without major changes taking place at a very fundamental level.

"When I got back to the United States, going out in public was like walking around holding a hand grenade with the safety pin pulled. I would go out of my way to walk well around groups of people, because I was scared that somebody might push me and I would respond with a lethal explosion. As it turned out, my concern wasn't overestimated.

"If you take a 'nice kid' and put him out into the military jungle, even understanding the normal rules of war, there is a point for each individual where if he becomes tired and weary enough, he will cross over into the atrocity zone and not take prisoners. Because it's easier to shoot them.

"Without any personal combat experience to support it, apparently I psychologically regressed into this kind of amoral personality while I was leading a platoon in a 'war games' exercise at Camp Roberts, California in the summer of 1962.

"About 15 minutes into the exercise, the guys in the platoon stopped me, saying they thought I was psychologically regressing back into a real experience. Was I suddenly a 'displaced' Korean War veteran? No. Had I just come from a secret war? No. And I believed, at the moment, that I couldn't be regressing. I knew I was in California and this was just a dumb little war game. The problem, which became apparent a few minutes later, was that I wasn't taking any prisoners.

"Fortunately, the guys in the platoon stepped in before any harm was done. I really thought I had everything under control, and that nothing was showing except normal 'cold war' experience. The way I was going to handle the 'prisoner' wasn't like a conditioned mental reflex. I had no 'live' ammunition and so I had to think 'creatively.' And I *did* figure out how to leave him lying there helpless with a minimum of effort on my part!

"I remembered that the regular Army drill instructors had cautioned against firing 'blank' rounds at close range, because the blast could do

damage. They illustrated this by blowing a big hole in a fatigue shirt with a blank round. So I figured that if I fired a blank round directly in the eyes of the 'prisoner,' he would be blinded and cause me no more problems . . .

"Later, of course, I realized that there was something in the 'incarnation' experience that could get crossed up and pop out and go 'cuckoo,' but I didn't seek help because I felt I had a 'mission.' No need to worry when you've been told that your ticket's been punched in case there's an accident!

"I don't know if anyone else in my platoon in Korea had this 'revelation' experience. Conversations never got any further than what I call a 'brainwash' experience that, for me, preceded the 'revelation' by about three months. And maybe they talked (ranted and raved) about it indirectly, and perhaps some of them even had experiences far stranger than my own.

"I would say the brainwash experience was probably preparation for the 'revelation.' Briefly, when guys would be out on guard duty alone at night, suddenly, for no apparent reason, all of the strength would drain from their bodies and they would fall down like wet rags—one guy fell from the back of a truck—and begin crying helplessly. Then, after about a minute, the crying would suddenly stop, body strength would return, and they would get back up as if nothing had happened.

"In my case, when I got back up I couldn't move. I couldn't take a step, because there was no reason to. All of the patriotism, pride in heritage and all that nationalistic propaganda everyone grows up with was gone. Erased. *And* it's never come back. I just stood there for about a minute like I was paralyzed, until a new set of values and motivations began filling my mind—values and motivations with 'universal' appeal as opposed to 'nationalistic.' Then I took a step, waited 15 seconds for more input, and pretty soon was walking again. But now, I was a different kind of citizen.

"I didn't have the normal feeling of self-pity, like 'I feel sorry for myself and I'm going to cry.' It was more like 'There's no tomorrow and I feel like lying here and sobbing until I die, because I can't even raise my head and I don't know what is happening to me.'

"I remember that right after that, I felt I might have been 'beamed' by some advanced device, so I looked all around the night sky and walked around the compound to see if something was sitting in or hovering above a rice paddy. I recall looking over the quonset huts, out into the blackness, trying to make out the outline of something that my mind was telling me was oval-shaped. But I couldn't see anything. It was like something was sitting out there invisibly watching me.

"Now comes what for me is perhaps the most intriguing part. Before walking across the battlefield to the 'revelation,' I was on a hillside to the north, sitting on the edge of an old Chinese foxhole. I felt a presence standing nearby, and then, as if it were a faint, moving overlay transparency, I witnessed a battle being fought, 'through the eyes' of a Chinese infantryman. The story I received was that Chinese infantrymen had been abandoned there by their officers, to fight off American firepower with nothing but rifles. Sorry—there's no polite term for it. It was just plain chicken-shit for the Chinese officers and their leaders to do that. The image of this as an outrage was planted so deeply into my mind that I still get emotional when I think about it.

"After the show was over, the Chinese presence revealed that Chinese and Americans would be 'paired' into two forces, each operating in their own countries to overthrow the 'warmongers' on each side—the people who sought a military solution to every problem. I shouldn't worry about joining the American force, because I would have a 'twin' in China. That is, we would be 'in balance' and the warmongering of both countries against each other would be reduced without endangering the security of the people in either. The long-term goal was to evolve political systems that would better serve the populations of

both countries.

"It all looked like it might have been just an hallucination, until I read one day in a newspaper that Lin Paio—Red China's top military strategist and the commander of the Fourth Field Army, main battle unit of the Chinese communist forces—had fled for his life and didn't make it. Crazy stuff continued inside China, but they had reduced sharply their military aid to Hanoi. Then another great leap forward happened when Nixon made his trip to Peking. In a TV interview with a Chinese general, I heard a description of the Korean War told from the Chinese point of view. And it was exactly as it had been shown to me in the foxhole. Apparently, the Chinese survivors of the Korean War had overthrown the 'warmongers.' In my mind, a question remains, however: Somewhere out there, among workers and peasants, are there Chinese guys who have had 'revelations?'

"Given this background, I want to relate an applied experience which substituted 'psychological force' for 'physical force.' After military service, I went back to college. I was 25 years old at the time, but still 'baby-faced,' looking about 21. One day a government recruiter visited campus. I attended his presentation before a group of students. (This was at a time when students were still friendly to Uncle Sam.) About half an hour into his talk, he started mentioning the Foreign Service and that he'd been in Korea during the war as a government civilian employee. It had been 'great' for him, he told us. Suddenly, I had an awareness that this guy had done 'dirty little things' over there, such as selling tidbits of information that were damaging to U.S. military security. I began thinking about killing him.

"I raised my hand, and when he motioned for me to talk, I quietly asked a question that I'm sure seemed innocent to my fellow students—but would reveal to him that I was suspicious about his Korean adventures. He got such a look of shock and fear on his face, that I thought he'd swallow his eyeballs. After a second, he slammed his briefcase shut and fled. I started to get up to follow him to the parking lot, where I could kill him. But just that moment, I went completely limp and I could hear a voice in my head with reverberating strength: 'Vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord.' "This was accompanied with a 'knowing' that the recruiter now realized he hadn't gotten away with his activities, and that the 'fear of God' was upon him. In other words, he had been *psychologically* terminated, and would be incapable of repeating the same deeds in Viet Nam. If he didn't truly repent, then maybe somewhere down the road he'd have another confrontation—one that he might not be able to run away from.

"I was scared, too. It appeared this had been performed by 'remote control,' and I felt very, very expendable. I am quite certain that if something hadn't made me go limp, I would have killed the man with my bare hands. I could see it happening in my mind. But by stopping at 'psychological assassination,' whatever was causing this had spared me prosecution for murder.

"But the main purposes of the revelation were more along these lines: When it became apparent to me that influential people in Washington, D.C. were thinking of instituting martial law as a means of continuing the Viet Nam War, I began thinking seriously of how to oppose such an action.

If it came, martial law would initially be implemented in partial form—probably as a response to some trumped-up incident. Media propagandists would do their best to give the takeover action a patriotic flavor, so that the public would raise only a fleeting, passive protest, and then turn complacent. Therefore, an effective 'offense' had to be something that would jolt the citizens out of their complacency, and, ideally, produce no casualties.

"The hard part was accepting that the commanders of such an operation would be an invisible 'intelligence,' and that I would have to place my full confidence in their motives and capabilities. That's like accepting the idea that you can jump out of an airplane without a parachute, and on the way down someone will hand you one! There is no room for skepticism or partial commitment; you either have to 'buy it' or 'beg off.'

"Trust is love. Love is trust.

"Thus, the revelation and my experiences following it seemed designed to build my trust in an invisible, extraordinarily powerful military intelligence. And maybe the idea isn't that far out. Members of WWII bomber crews have said that they got their courage from a 'talking in the head' with messages of a spiritual nature. And these bombers were accompanied on some missions by 'foo fighters,' the WWII name for UFOs.

"I researched the idea of angels some years ago, and discovered in an old dictionary that they were once thought of as 'spiritual intelligence agents.' I'll buy that— but I also have the notion that if the situation demands it, they can play very, very rough. And I'll go a step further and say that they certainly don't need help from the self-appointed terrorists who sit at the helm of organized religion.

"Perhaps there is both a 'light side' and a 'dark side' to UFO-type phenomena. The light side deals with love and brotherhood and things like that, and the dark side deals with areas like counterviolence operations. Space brother with a big fist? But how does it relate to what appears to be the real hardware of the phenomenon?

"The exact date of my revelation was Jan. 3; I made a strong mental note of it at the time. The actual decision to commit U.S. troops to Viet Nam was made on Jan. 1 at a meeting of the 'inner circle' of the then-future Kennedy administration, according to a surviving member . . .

"I have always considered the possibility that the 'revelation' might have been telepathy from a human source in Washington, D.C., and that the 'incarnation' was a hypnotic suggestion rather than an actual transfer of experience. But that would be phenomenal in itself.

"The manner in which the intelligence was transmitted may be somewhat immaterial. What is important to me is the implication that government business—local, state and national—should be conducted as if it were always being conducted in full view of the public. No matter how good the intentions might be, once secrecy is introduced it creates distrust—and that can lead to all sorts of harmful things.

"It was transmitted to me that the last part of my revelation is yet to come. It will involve things that will be common knowledge. I don't mean 'faith,' I mean knowledge—like everyone knows about the NFL. I wasn't given a picture of it in 1961, because it was outside of my (or anyone else's) imagination . . .

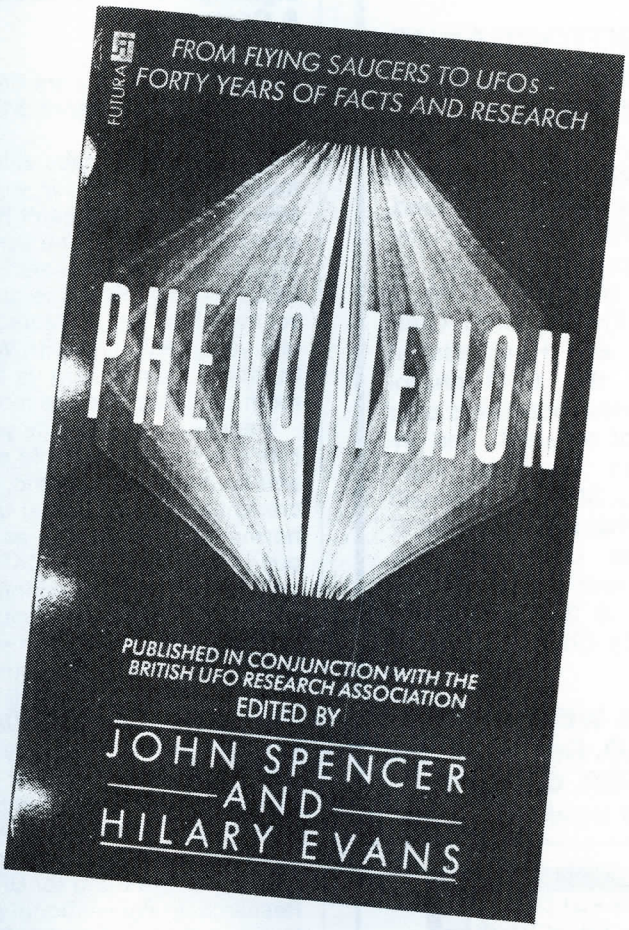
"But during my original revelation, I received the intuition that what we popularly view as God and Heaven are simplifications, designed to fill the needs of 'childish' minds. Closer to the truth I saw would associate these concepts with a large, diversified, hierarchal bureaucracy.

'Original prophecy' predates and is more fundamental than organized religion . . . the abductee/communion thing has 'fundamental' written all over it. Which is why I am so drawn to it."

PHENOMENON: From Flying Saucers to UFOs

Forty Years of Facts and Research

Edited By John Spencer and Hilary Evans, Futura Publications, London: 1988. Illus., 413 pp. 3.95 Pounds.



Commercialism is not always an ignoble venture, nor is it always the kiss of death. Case in point is ***Phenomenon***, edited by Spencer and Evans, and published in association with BUFORA, the British UFO Research Association. Basically, this volume is an offshoot of a similar contributor-heavy volume, ***UFOs 1947-1987***, compiled by the same two editors for Fortean Tomes (see ***UFO***, Vol. 3, No. 1) last summer.

That book seems destined to become a classic, despite its scarcity in the States and $25 price tag. Just published in mass market hard and soft covers in England, ***Phenomenon*** will be published in America by Avon—which means it will probably have wide circulation here this summer or fall, probably in paperback only. There are other differences between the two titles also, not the least of which is that contributors were paid this time around. (The first effort was wholly voluntary, which resulted in a sort of goodwill package from UFO researchers to a limited public.)

Has "success" spoiled ufology? The answer depends partly on your viewpoint, of course. Though most contributors I've talked to were happy to receive a check, some grumbling surfaced over the wholesale editing of their articles. For the editors' part, this was reportedly forced on *them* by the publisher out of commercial necessity. The results aren't fatal, but they do diminish the variety of voice which distinguished the Fortean Tomes volume.

The average reader, however, won't be too bothered by what went on in the preproduction stages, so let's see what he or she gets for the money, and the other chips can lie where they fall. For one thing, they get diversity, some 30-plus chapters on various aspects of UFO phenomena that amount to an encyclopedic survey on the subject.

While well-known names in the field like Jacques Vallee, Leo Sprinkle, Jerome Clark, Bruce Maccabee, Richard Haines and others are missing, the roster of contributors remains impressive, with an understandable weighting toward British and European researchers. Budd Hopkins is represented with a piece on abduction investigations, John Keel by an article on "The People Problem," and James McCampbell with "What ET Would Mean for Mankind." This writer reviews the early contactee era.

Britain's Paul Devereaux weighs in with an excellent update of his own research into the geomagnetic connection, "Earthlights," and Canada's Chris Rutkowski scans the same picture from a larger perspective in "Geophysical Alternatives." Spooklights are also treated in the same section on explaining UFOs, along with pro and con viewpoints on the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis, as well as the phenomenon's interface with the psyche of individual witnesses (Mark Moravec, Nigel Watson).

Jenny Randles, BUFORA's director of investigations, contributes three articles on investigations per se, including "Living With a Close Encounter" and "Government Cover-up and Conspiracy." Kevin McLure looks at UFO cults, and various authors survey the difficulties inherent in establishing UFO evidence, including photographic, landing trace and radar analysis. Kenneth Behrendt continues his intriguing speculations on, and extrapolations of, theoretical UFO technology (also the subject of his American UFO journal, "AURA.") And along the way, there are the usual articles devoted to UFOs in both ancient and relatively recent history, and as a global eruption of unprecedented proportions.

Finally, editors John Spencer and Hilary Evans wrap things up (the book, that is!) with the case for scientific study and skepticism, respectively, Evans arguing, "to be of value, skepticism must also be *constructive*. It is not enough for the skeptic to indicate the shortcomings of an explanation; he must be able to offer a better one."

I suppose something of the sort could also apply to book reviewing. I could carp about this one, but for the moment, as a popular, far-ranging introduction to a controversial subject of the first water, I can't think of a better pair of oars. ***—Dennis Stacy***

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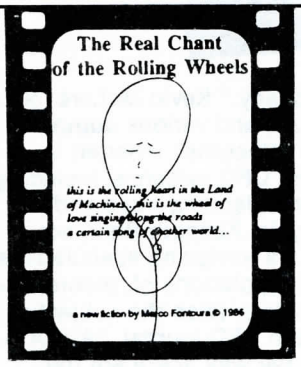
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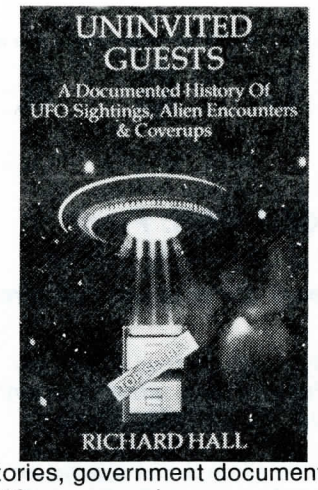
UNINVITED GUESTS:
A Documented History of UFO Sightings, Alien Encounters & Cover-ups

By Richard Hall, Aurora Press, Santa Fe: 1988. 381 pp. paper, $14.



James Thurber once said, "So much has already been written about everything that you can't find out anything about it." The sentiment would almost surely seem to apply to UFOs by now, given the plethora of volumes that has appeared in the last year, beginning with Whitley Strieber's ***Communion***. Is there any room or reason for one more?

Happily, the answer is yes. While Hall's is not a household name among the general public, he is quite credentialed in historical UFO terms, having served time first as a young pup in the '50s with NICAP, the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena, the country's largest UFO organization ever, and later as assistant and acting director of same. He edited NICAP's landmark and neglected ***The UFO Evidence***, served a lengthy stint as editor of the ***MUFON UFO Journal*** (he is now MUFON's director of publications), and presently holds down the position of national board member of the Fund for UFO Research. In conventional parlance, Hall has "been around." With the recent deaths of J. Allen Hynek and Jim and Coral Lorenzen of APRO, he may even be the field's most knowledgeable and experienced ufologist, save for his mentor and original NICAP co-founder, Donald E. Keyhoe, who remains in seclusion.

Thus, Hall could have written an autobiographical "I was there at the beginning" UFO book; instead, for better or worse, he has chosen to shoot a scattergun at the phenomenon itself, while clearly aiming for the extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH). If a less personal account than one might have wished, his kitchen sink approach still has its pluses.

In fact, Hall presents a wealth of UFO data and opinion, beginning with flyleaf comments by Budd Hopkins and Bruce Maccabee, a dedication, acknowledgements, an "About the Author," table of contents, a forward by anthropologist John B. Carlson, of the University of Maryland, a prologue, an introduction, and finally, beginning on page 33, the body of the text proper, which runs to page 224. The remainder of the book consists of various appendices, including extensive case histories, government documents, the MJ-12 papers and even a page of acronyms and abbreviations. Those wanting their money's worth will find little to carp about in what is essentially a mini-encyclopedia format, though an index would have been a valuable (and admittedly expensive) addition. As it is, bibliographical notes are found at the end of each chapter for the curious who want to delve deeper.

Hall's thesis is that nuts-and-bolts extraterrestrials are the most likely cause of classical UFO events, including vehicle interference, electromagnetic effects, humanoid beings and abductions. Those in search of, for want of better words, a "New Age" content, or software approach to the phenomenon, would probably be advised to look elsewhere. Hall plays hard diskball with his data and case history selection, largely eschewing those more perplexing reports that involve a host of absurd, so-called "psychic" or paranormal components, though he treats a few as examples of "magic technology."

However, Hall's hardware attitudes hardly spoil the value and significance of ***Uninvited Guests***. Indeed, a wide audience is sure to welcome its relative "conservatism," especially among those who think the subject has acquired a somewhat mushy and insubstantial aura in recent years. And in truth, Hall is not so much ignoring the contrary paranormal component of the UFO phenomenon as he is emphasizing its down-to-earth, physical aspects.

With Timothy Good's vast compendium of government UFO documents, ***Above Top Secret***, due out momentarily from William Morrow, and Hall's carefully reasoned contribution seemingly substantiating many of the same assumptions, a tide in the course of UFO affairs may be turning. The "old hands," intent on interesting orthodox science in their subject, may yet have a couple of live rounds in the chamber. ***—Dennis Stacy***

C O N T A C T

This section presents select listings of groups and individuals involved in the spectrum of UFO and UFO-related phenomena. This issue's CONTACT has been shortened due to space limitations. Contributors are placed in categories most nearly describing their main activities or concerns. Inclusion in CONTACT does not necessarily indicate a belief in either UFOs or extraterrestrial life, nor does it constitute endorsement by UFO Magazine or its publishers, who reserve the right to select and edit listings. For more information, write to UFO, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd., Box 355, LA, CA 90035 or call (213) 273-9409.

Information Services

CHRISTIAN RESEARCH OF AERIAL PHENOMENA *(C.R.O.A.P.) is a non-profit organization investigating the UFO phenomenon from both Biblical and scientific perspectives. This membership organization hosts a half-hour cable program, publishes a bi-monthly newsletter and offers VHS tapes, audio cassettes and books. CONTACT: Art Leman, C.R.O.A.P., 1524 Ferndale Ave., Johnstown, PA 15905. (814) 288-2314*

COMPUTER UFO NETWORK *is always on-line for computerists seeking on-the-spot news of UFO events throughout the nation. CUFON (and affiliated organization Bluepeace), was established by UFO researcher Dale Goudie, for the purpose of providing other UFO field researchers with quick access to sighting data and locations. CUFON also has documented Freedom of Information material. CONTACT: Computer UFO Network, Computer line: (connect at 300 or 1200 bauds, eight data bits, no parity, one stop bit) (206) 722-5738. Information line: (206) 721-5035*

FINE MEDIA INTERNATIONAL *specializes in scientific investigation and documentation of terrestrial UFOs and contactees, worldwide. Included in this material is pertinent correspondence dating back to the late 1940s, and exclusive interviews with British inventor John Searl, creator of a terrestrial UFO dubbed the Searl Levity Disk. Director Bill Cox has also issued an investigative paper, "Spaceman, Show Me Your Powers," based on extraordinary contactees in Brazil.*
CONTACT: Bill Cox, Fine Media International, P.O. Box 30561, Santa Barbara, CA 93130. (805) 569-0038

FOUNDATION FOR UFO RESEARCH *is a non-profit, tax-exempt foundation whose major activities are informing the general public of the nature and scope of the UFO phenomenon and offering grants and awards to individuals and organizations to advance humanity's knowledge of the UFO phenomenon. The Foundation sponsors a Significant Work Award to recognize important contributions to the field.*
CONTACT: Allen Benz, Foundation for UFO Research, P.O. Box 182, Tucson, AZ 85702-0182

GEORGE D. FAWCETT *provides a four-page recommended reading list, which includes 58 different UFO sources from the U.S., Canada, England and Australia. (Available for a $2 check made out to Fawcett and a long, self-addressed stamped envelope with 45 cents postage.) For half of his 42 years as a UFO researcher and lecturer, Fawcett has wanted to establish a educational, cooperative UFO Museum to meet a growing need in the UFO field. Investors and subscribers are sought.*
CONTACT: George D. Fawcett, 602 Battleground Rd., Lincolnton, NC 28092. (704) 735-5725.

OMEGA COMMUNICATIONS *of Connecticut is run by literary agent John White. Omega regularly presents a symposium entitled The UFO Experience, which hosts top names in the field addressing the multifaceted perspectives of UFO research and direct experience. The next event will be held on Oct. 8 and 9, and presents Philip Imbrogno, Larry Fawcett, Budd Hopkins, Brad Steiger and others. Cost: $100 per ticket 'til Aug. 20; $120 thereafter.*
CONTACT: Omega Communications, P.O. Box 2051, Cheshire, CT 06410

PARANET *is the world's first computer network for the discussion of the paranormal. Through the use of electronic bulletin board systems, computer users can read the latest UFO news, discuss theories, trade stories and participate in group projects on a national level. ParaNet emphasizes a sober treatment of the UFO phenomenon from all sides, and invites researchers, skeptics, and other experts to network through the system so that all users may benefit.*
CONTACT: Jim Speiser, National Fringe Sciences Information Service, P.O. Box 17675, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. Data line: (602) 837-0062 (Modem required).

SAUCER SMEAR *allows rabble-rousers and educated fanatics from throughout ufology to have a veritable field day arguing their particular points of view and making slanderous remarks in print. In keeping with his humorous approach, editor James Moseley asks potential non-subscribers to ask him not to be on the subscription list. If you can figure that out, you're a "Smear" natural!*
CONTACT: Supreme Commander James Moseley, Saucer Smear, P.O. Box 1709, Key West, FL 33041.

TRUE PSYCHIC INQUIRER *supplies readers with an array of facts and revelations from the Unseen side of life. The quarterly features experiences and predictions from mediums and psychics worldwide. True Psychic Inquirer runs about 200 pages per issue, and costs $11.75 per year.*
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UFO/CONTACT NEWSLINE *transmits UFO stories over a 976 line based in Los Angeles, California. Stories on telephone (at $2.00 per call in California) are supplemented with printed transcripts for those wanting to order a specific report, videotapes about the Billy Meier case in Switzerland, books detailing two other contactee cases, posters, bumper stickers and other products.*
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UFO *Magazine, published by California UFO, was established to increase public exposure to ideas and information about UFOs and their occupants, and to bridge disinformation elements and conflicting attitudes toward the subject. The magazine is available by subscription and at selected newsstands and bookstores nationally.*
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UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE *collects all the UFO-oriented articles available from newspapers and magazines worldwide. For a subscription fee, editors Lucius Farish and Rod B. Dyke will send monthly compilations of this coverage, which includes some foreign material. Stories are individually labeled with the name of the printed source and date of publication.*
CONTACT: Lucius Farish & Rod B. Dyke, editors, UFO Newsclipping Service, Route 1, Box 220, Plumerville, AK 72127

UFO REVIEW *claims nearly 30,000 circulation. According to editor-publisher Timothy Beckley, UFO Review emphasizes no particular aspect of the UFO scene. He tries to cover a wide spectrum of material in his nearly 10 year old publication, which comes out quarterly and accompanies the production and distribution of related books and merchandise to satisfy the UFO-curious public. The current issue is available to people who write to Beckley in care of the magazine.*
CONTACT: UFO Review, P.O. Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

UFO UNIVERSE*, edited by the creator of "UFO Review," just debuted on the slick mag scene with a press run of 100,000—and can be found all over the U.S. Beckley says "UFO Universe" attempts to cover the UFO subject from a hard-hitting and slightly sensational angle. (An article by UFO Mag's editor Vicki Cooper is scheduled to appear in issue two.)*
CONTACT: Al Weiss, publisher, UFO Universe, 351 W. 54th St. New York, NY 10019.

Investigation & Research

AERIAL PHENOMENA RESEARCH ORGANIZATION*, headed by Coral Lorenzen, is one of the longest-running UFO organizations in the U.S., with representatives worldwide. A non-profit corporation based in Arizona, APRO maintains field investigators responsible for case followup and documentation that is submitted for review and eventually published in a membership bulletin. Consulting panels are drawn from medicine, physical sciences and social sciences. The organization is dedicated to the eventual solution of the phenomenon of UFOs.*
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vestigations. C.U.P. has been in existence for 32 years, making it one of the oldest UFO institutions around. Meetings are held regularly on the third Saturday of each month, and ufologists traveling to Ohio are urged to get in touch with this long-lived organization.
CONTACT: Mary Ann Hawk, Cleveland Ufology Project, 7653 Normandie Blvd., C-33, Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-0782

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***GROUP 6/80** is an independent, non-profit research committee whose members come from the fields of astronomy, aerial photo interpretation, computer software, microelectronics, systems integration and a number of other fields to effect a multi-disciplinary approach to unconventional studies. Topics include UFO cases, ESP, lunar anomalies, psionic devices, Tesla technology, artificial intelligence, animal intelligence, and ancient mysteries. The group gratefully accepts donations of information and will consider informational exchanges with other organizations. (Any material to be returned must be accompanied by an SASE.)*
CONTACT: Evan Hayworth, Group 6/80, P.O. Box 701, Venice, CA 90294-0701

***J. ALLEN HYNEK CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES** incorporates the name of the man, now deceased, who was probably the most credible and respected UFO researcher in the U.S. The Center attempts to maintain Hynek's tradition of credibility and scientific research, publishing the well-respected ufological bimonthly International UFO Reporter. (The Center also has plans to revive its quarterly Journal for UFO Studies—science advisor, Mark Rodeghier.) Nearly 100 volunteer investigators participate in association with CUFOS, which maintains 35 file drawers of case material once belonging to the National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP)*
CONTACT: J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, 2457 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659. International UFO Reporter: Jerome Clark, editor, 1511 Greenleaf St., Evanston, IL 60202

***INSTITUTE FOR UFO CONTACTEE STUDIES**, along with Paranormal Research Organization and UFO Studies, sponsors the well-attended Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation. This annual congregation of contactees and investigators takes place at the University of Wyoming, workplace of UFO researcher and hypnotist Dr. Leo Sprinkle. The purpose of IFUFOCS, says Sprinkle, is to research contactee phenomena and help bring to light the nature of their experiences. Conference proceedings are available in booklet form.*
CONTACT: R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Institute for UFO Contactee Studies, 1425 Steele St., Laramie, WY 82070. (307) 745-7897

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volved in the UFO field. Utilizing its nationwide team of volunteer investigators, MUFON gathers and disseminates UFO sighting reports and other current UFO information. This data is made available through the monthly MUFON UFO Journal, as well as the Amateur Radio Networks some members operate. Those interested in joining MUFON may submit a membership application and dues for approval. **CONTACT:** Walter H. Andrus, Jr., International Director, Mutual UFO Network, Inc., 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099. (512) 379-9216

THE NEW YORK FORTEAN SOCIETY, organized last year, investigates and reports on unexplained natural events and scientific anomalies. Information is presented in lectures and demonstrations, plus a membership newsletter. Logistical support is provided by Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (NJ) and International Fortean Organization (Washington, D.C.). NYFS is chaired by noted Fortean maven and author John A. Keel.
CONTACT: The New York Fortean Society, P.O. Box 20024, New York, NY 10025

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE UNEXPLAINED was founded in 1981 as a state-wide clearinghouse for UFO sighting reports and other phenomena. An all-volunteer, non-profit scientific research unit, PASU exchanges data worldwide on its specialties—UFOs and strange animal sightings. The group, founded by researcher Stan Gordon, is recognized by law enforcement and news agencies.
CONTACT: Stan Gordon, PASU, 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601

Technology & Science

ANNALS OF UFOLOGICAL RESEARCH ADVANCES, or AURA, is intended for the serious ufologist seeking to learn about the new physics utilized in UFO propulsion/extraterrestrial technology. Though not yet available by subscription, AURA can be purchased one issue at a time, 5.85 each postpaid, at Arcturus—address below. Issues Nos. 2 through 13 are available. Just published, no. 13 contains an article on free energy machines and information which AURA Editor Kenneth W. Behrendt says resolves a longstanding UFO photographic mystery.
CONTACT: Arcturus Book Service, P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, GA 30083-0023

BORDERLAND SCIENCES & RESEARCH FOUNDATION has been navigating the realm between the seen and unseen for a respectable number of decades, publishing a line of scientific and para-scientific books and reports. These publications and some esoteric electronic equipment are available for research purposes. The various authors and inventors who contribute to the BSRF Journal, a bimonthly published since 1945, share stores of knowledge in such areas as Tesla technology, ether physics, dowsing, radionics, occult photography and—UFO tech.
CONTACT: Borderland Sciences and Research Foundation, c/o Thomas Brown, P.O. Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429

KLARK KENT SUPER SCIENCE is dedicated to technology for the New Age. Kent lectures on the discoveries of inventors such as Reich, Moray, Searl and Leedskalnin, and claims replications of their work and that of others are providing the practical knowledge needed to build flying saucers. Super Science functions on the premise that flying saucer motor technology is the bridge to the cosmos.
CONTACT: Klark Kent, P.O. Box 392, Dayton, OH 45409. &513) 298-7116

STELLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE offers an outlet for the open research and development of alternative energies, advanced aerospace capabilities, world grid investigations and ancient mysteries. Peaceful, beneficial uses of technology are emphasized and appear in books put out by S.R.I's affiliate, Adventures Unlimited Press. A non-profit organization, S.R.I. currently conducts experiments with free-energy motors and gravity control devices, and wishes to network with others interested in the development of native technologies.
CONTACT: Stellar Research Institute, Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946

VORTEX, GRID & LEY presents seven Earth energy secrets, from energy/ley line researcher Allan Grise. Available in booklet or cassette for $7.
CONTACT: Allan Grise, 7720 Paradise Valley 201, San Diego, CA 92139

Special Projects

ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY is dedicated to the search for evidence to determine whether Earth was visited by extraterrestrial beings in ancient times, and to determine whether a highly-developed technological civilization existed on Earth prior to recorded history. Providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, the society disseminates factual material throughout the world.
CONTACT: Gene Phillips, Ancient Astronaut Society, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035-3105.

BLUEPEACE will eventually present factual UFO testimony before Congress, its principle goal. An offshoot of Computer UFO Network, this civilian interest organization is drumming up support for Congressional hearings not only on UFOs, but other important issues as well. "Any area that affects Americans and their Constitutional rights," says Bluepeace spokesman Dale Goudie. The project will also help fund other worthwhile projects and organizations. Inquiries are welcome.
CONTACT: Bluepeace, P.O. Box 832, Mercer Island, WA 98040

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY openly challenges the federal government to make public its vast stores of UFO information. By accessing governmental UFO data through the Freedom of Information Act and employing other appropriate tactics, CAUS is able to document events relating to official secrecy. CAUS networks with ufologists both in and out of the U.S. and publishes "Just Cause" newsletter with "inside information."
CONTACT: Larry Bryant, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, 3518 Martha Custis Dr., Alexandria, VA 22302.

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH, a non-profit, scientific organization, directs public contributions into UFO research and education projects. Since its inception in 1979, the Fund has raised more than $67,000, nearly half of which has been spent on grants, case investigations, government investigations, awards and symposia. No memberships; strictly a funding organization—though some books and informational case material can be ordered.
CONTACT: Fred Whiting, Fund for UFO Research, Inc., P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712 (703) 683-2786.

LIFELINE PRODUCTIONS has presented public workshops and private conferences dealing with many aspects of the UFO issue. Lifeline's director, Keith Thompson is a certified hypnotherapist who utilizes his skills to assist people with often unsettling visionary and paranormal experiences, including UFO phenomena. Private sessions.
CONTACT: Keith Thompson, Lifeline Productions, 267 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941. (415) 388-9008.

THE LONG RANGE FOUNDATION intends to raise funds expressly for privately-operated, independent explorations into the solar system. One principal goal is the purchase of a $180 million Titan booster for a private return mission to Mars, obtaining more photographs of the enigmatic Martian landscape. Before that, Long Range plans to distribute computer-enhanced images of all the existing Mars photos, taken during the 1976 Viking mission, and to begin archeological investigations of earth phenomena that relate to Mars' prehistory.
CONTACT: The Long Range Foundation, Rt. 1, Box 473-B, Casa Grande, AZ 85222. (602) 836-5637

TOM & CAROL BANTA-GOODE, formerly working under the name Transformative Life Center, research dozens of abduction cases from people located in several east coast cities that include New York, Washington D.C. and Baltimore. Their work involves facilitating remembrance of childhood abductions and encounters with an "ultimate goal" of utilizing the current upsurge in encounter memories to determine an overall "plan" at this point.
CONTACT: Tom and Caron Banta-Goode, 10135 Yorktown Dr., Great Falls, VA 22066

Contactee Groups

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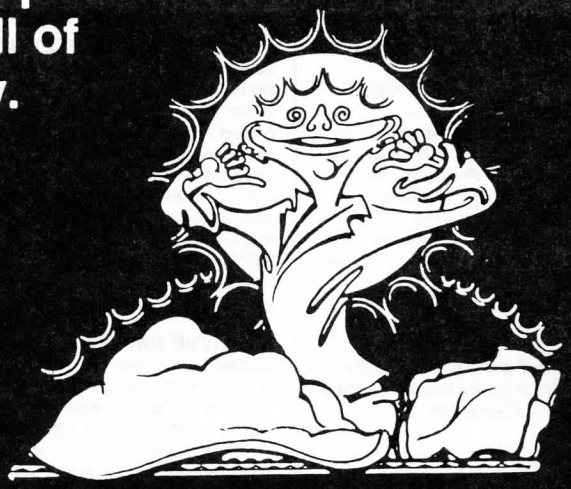

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tactee or abduction experience. Fox Valley offers local support through a call-in TV program. Founder Judie Woolcott claims to be working with an extraterrestrial member of the planetary confederation that will be offering a helping hand during the predicted planetary catastrophe. CONTACT: Judie Woolcott, Fox Valley UFO Discussion and Support Group, P.O. Box 584, Menasha, WI 54952-0584.

***INTERPLANETARY CULTURAL EXCHANGE**, according to director and contactee Hal Wilcox, consists of "seven test projects" that must be completed according to the terms of a covenant between Wilcox's Universe Society Church (UNISOC) and a group of extraterrestrial sponsors. The final test will culminate in Egypt, Wilcox says. "Our ultimate goal is to be the avant garde to help bring about an Interplanetary Cultural Exchange between the 49 principal colonized planets in this one galaxy." Wilcox publishes a newsletter/update to keep interested participants informed about progress of his project. UNISOC is located in Hollywood, California.*
CONTACT: Hal Wilcox, Universe Society Church, P.O. Box 38132, Hollywood, CA 90038

***NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS** is directed by Dr. Frank Stranges, who claims to have ongoing interaction with a Venusian by the name of Val Thor. Dr. Stranges describes his initial meeting with Mr. Thor in one of many books, and passes on related UFO/spiritual information through his evangelical work and a quarterly newsletter, UFO Journal. NICUFO is a membership organization that distributes other UFO works as well, and regularly hosts UFO Space and Science Meetings that are open to the general public.*
CONTACT: NICUFO, P.O. Box 5, Van Nuys, CA 91401

***PLEIADES PROJECT** presents specialized workshops on extraterrestrial information ostensibly coming from Pleiadian humans. An English translation of contact notes from Eduard (Billy) Meier, Swiss contactee, is used to inform people about Pleiadian philosophy and our connection to that civilization.*
CONTACT: Randy Winters, (213) 836-1499.

***THE SOCIETY FOR TRUTH ABOUT UFOs** places God as a pure energy source at the center of a multitude of universes, saying UFOs herald Christ's return to Earth. STAUFOS has published its own 300-page book entitled "World in Translation," well-received as material from messengers beyond this dimension who tell us why UFOs are here, why there WON'T be a nuclear war and what humanity's future will be on Earth and in the solar system. The book includes an extensive collection of references for UFO buffs.*
CONTACT: Gerald T. Ross, Society for Truth About UFOs, 3610 W. 6th St., No. 412, Los Angeles, CA 90020.

***UFO CONTACT CENTER INTERNATIONAL** is involved with helping contactees, operating 22 centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. This non-profit support center provides needed counseling to those who have been subjected to scorn and ridicule and are having difficulty coping with sudden changes in their lives. UFOCCI publishes a monthly newsletter called "The Missing Link," $15 annually; $25 for foreign subscribers.*
CONTACT: Aileen Edwards, director, UFO Contact Center International, P.O. Box 46404, Seattle, WA 98146-0404

***UNIVERSAL KINGDOM** acts as a "planetary anchor"—part of the multi-dimensional stabilization of earth as it undergoes its major cycle frequency change, according to Brother Lou, the*

Kingdom's director. This constitutes "an activity to assist the sleeping giant, humanity, in awakening from its deep sleep that it might participate in the joy of bringing Earth planet out of its regressive period of misuse and disrespect." Published irregularly, a newsletter shares "self-helps," providing stimulation in a non-counseling manner.
CONTACT: UNIVERSAL KINGDOM, P.O. Box 938, Roseburg, OR 97470

***WORLD UNDERSTANDING, INC.** members work for world peace by studying and discussing all areas of human and divine relationship. Topics of particular interest at various World Understanding branches include—among others—health, comparative religion, ESP, metaphysics and the spiritual implications of flying saucer phenomena. The international, non-profit group was founded by Daniel Fry, a renowned contactee and authority on extraterrestrials who wrote a book-length account of his experience with a man from another planet, entitled "To Men Of Earth." Other books and his taped lectures can be ordered from World Understanding headquarters.*
CONTACT: Dan Fry, World Understanding, Inc., P.O. Box 614, Alamogordo, NM 88311

***DELVAL UFO, INC.**, dedicated to the "en-LIGHT-enment" of humankind, reaches out to other groups and individuals focused on understanding UFO phenomena and occupants. Anthony and Lynn Volpe, Delval president and vice president respectively, concentrate on furthering the positive, uplifting aspects of UFOs. Delval informs people through lectures, interviews and mass media. All this supplements their newsletter, called "Awakening."*
CONTACT: Delval UFO, Inc., 948 Almshouse Rd. Ivyland, PA 18974

***J & S AQUARIAN NETWORKING** shares all types of "Aquarian" information, particularly items about UFOs, crystals and crystal skulls. Additional services include networking through the sales and exchange of books and mailing lists. Acting as a connecting point in the process of global information systems, J & S plans to utilize modern technology via computer and video. Says Shapiro, "We are open to connecting with others of like mind, and especially New Age businesses wishing to network as a way of speeding up the global sharing of information."*
CONTACT: J & S Aquarian Networking, Att'n: Jeff & Joshua, P.O. Box 1395, Pacifica, CA 94044. (415) 359-1921

***NEW AGE FOUNDATION, INC.**, directed by Wayne Aho—CIA consultant and World War II intelligence technician— promotes an active inquiry into UFOs and their connection to New Age philosophy. Aho lectures on UFOs and sponsors an annual UFO-cosmic convention is Washington state.*
CONTACT: New Age Founddation, Inc., P.O. Box 8044, Tacoma, WA 98408

***OUTER SPACE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS SOCIETY (OSIRIS)**, the heart/brainchild of retired Army officer Raymond A. Keller, II, oublishes the Dial, a newsletter filled with spiritually-tinged notes, news and channelings derived from the "New Age" UFO scene. Through this and his other efforts on behalf of humanity, he hopes to "promote world peace and prepare people's hearts and minds for the arrival of great intelligences from other star systems."*
CONTACT: Raymond A. Keller, II, OSIRIS, 9430 Parsifal Pl., N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111

***PLEIADES FOUNDATION FOR PEACE** interprets God awareness from a vantage point that transcends conventional religion, says director Miguel Ribera. His group searches out star people, teaches scriptural mysteries and stresses the importance of the Pleiadian system to humanity's existence. The Pleiades Foundation derives its name from the star system referred to in the Christian bible, and is not related to material or organizations involved with the Billy Meier contactee case.*
CONTACT: Miguel Ribera, Pleiades Foundation for Peace, Inc., 1570 Nannette Dr., Reno, NV 89502

***UFORUM** holds meetings the last Saturday of each month. Lectures present researchers and contactees who share their visions of the UFO phenomenon. UFORUM freely explores unusual experiences involving extraterrestrial intelligence and space ships on various reality levels. Information on upcoming programs is available by mail.*
CONTACT: Penny Harper, UFORUM, 11020 Ventura Blvd., Suite 134-CU, Studio City, CA 91604. (213) 874-8185.

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***THEIR GOOD NEWS SPECIAL REPORT** is touted as a TV news summary of the hundreds of hours spent by author Frank Mascaro, revealing his personal experience researching, training and development in videotaping touchdown meetings with—in Mascaro's own words—Jesus Christ himself, and demonstration flights with Him in his spacecraft. (Mascaro asks that a self-addressed, stamped envelope be sent with all correspondence.)*
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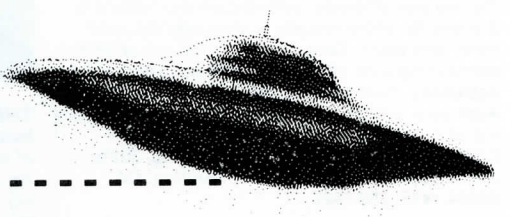

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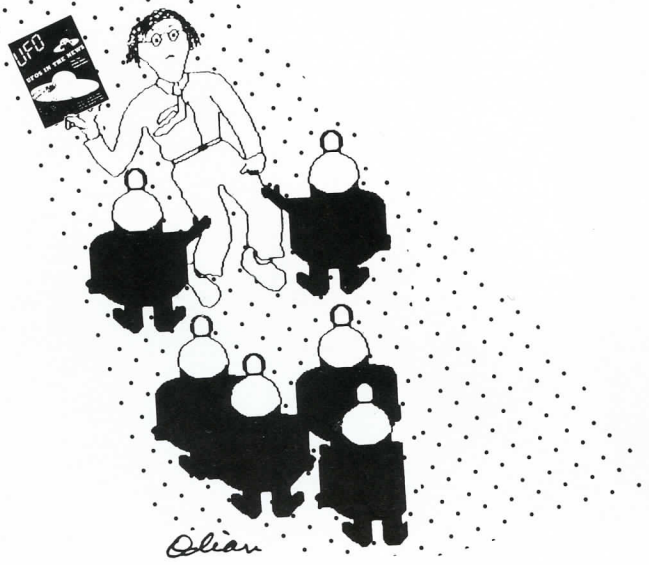

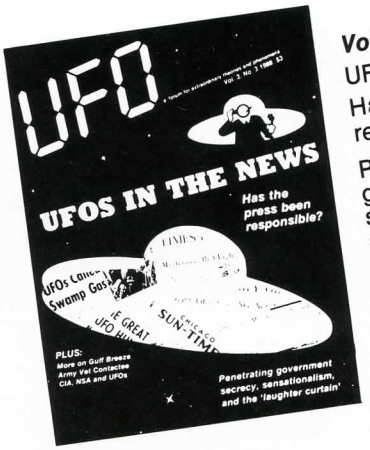

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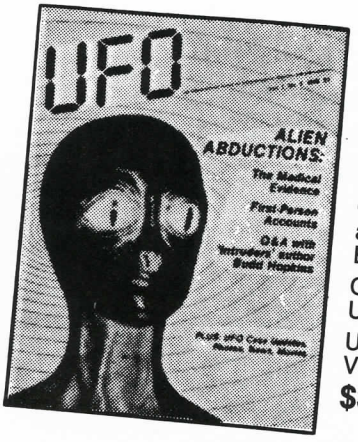

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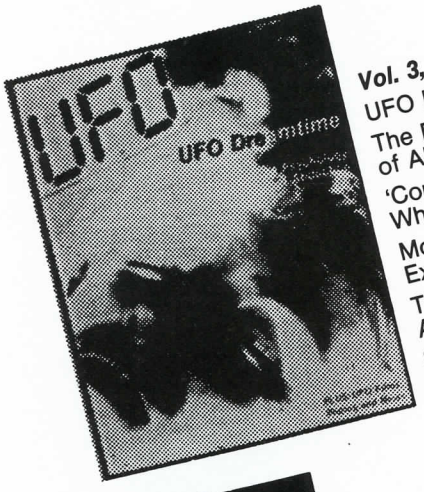

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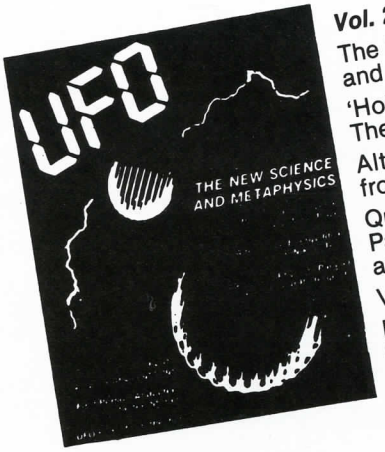

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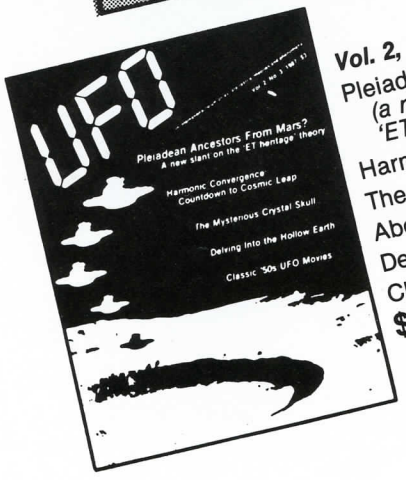
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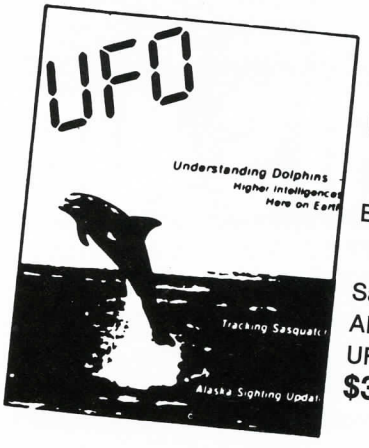

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